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JERUSALEM COMMITTEE SESSION ENDS, RECOMMENDATIONS REPORTED

LD130008 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2139 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Report by Qasim az-Zuhayri, assistant secretary general of the Islamic Congress, on the recommendation adopted by the Jerusalem Committee at its 11-12 March sessions at the Marrakech Municipal Hall under the chairmanship of Morocco's King Hassan II--Live]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. My lord, His Majesty King Hassan, may God protect you. May I submit to your majesty the text of the report of the meetings of the second session of the Jerusalem Committee which met in Marrakech on 11 and 12 March 1980?

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The Jerusalem Committee met under the chairmanship of His Majesty King Hassan II and in the presence of the foreign ministers of the committee's member-countries in Marrakech on 11 and 12 March 1980.

The committee during its work adopted the following agenda:

1. To follow-up the resolutions of the Jerusalem Committee.

2. To draw up programs and plans for the liberation of holy Jerusalem.

3. To continue the contacts with the Vatican and the rest of the Christian world.

4. A report on the recommendation of the board of directors of the Jerusalem Fund during its third session.

The committee heard the report presented by the assistant secretary general on the implementation of the resolutions of the Jerusalem Committee and expressed gratitude and appreciation for the efforts exerted by the chairman of the committee and the general secretariat for the implementation of these resolutions and approved the abovementioned report.

The committee began discussion on the (?third) item on its agenda and took cognizance of the working papers presented by Morocoo, the Syrian Arab Republic, the PLO and Jordan. In order to consolidate the political and information efforts carried out by the Jerusalem Committee in the period between its first and second sessions under the presidency of His Majesty King Hassan II; to utilize the recent positive events concerning the Palestinian problem and Jerusalem at the international level in general and the European level in particular; and to realize (?planning) of the political and information activities in the coming stage at the highest level so as to enable the achievement of further gains capable of liberating holy Jerusalem and recovering the occupied Arab lands, the Jerusalem Committee recommends the following:

1. To express appreciation for the French attitude expressed by French President Giscard d'Estaing during his visit to a number of fraternal Arab countries concerning the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and regarding the Palestinian problem, a problem of a people and not one of refugees, and to continue the efforts and contacts and to form groups for contacts at the ministerial level and in the way to be chosen by His Majesty King Hassan II to carry out visits to France, European countries and a select group of non-Islamic countries in order to develop their attitude in the direction of reaching a recognition of the PLO as sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and recognition of the firm national rights of the Palestinian people as was confirmed by the United Nations, including their right to return to their homeland, self-determination and to establish their own independent state in Palestine in accordance with the UN Charter.

2. The Islamic states adhere to the Security Council resolutions regarding the settlements and holy Jerusalem; regard it as a lawful international and unanimous will which must be put into effect; address thanks to the member-states of the Security Council for adopting the resolutions for (?dismantling) the Israeli settlements in Jerusalem and all the occupied territories; and consider it as a major gain for the Palestinian issue.

3. The committee expresses its strong dissatisfaction with the U.S. statements following the adoption of the Security Council resolution mentioned above, and which is connected with the status and future of Jerusalem and settlements in the occupied Palestinian Arab territories.

4. To reaffirm the rallying of the Islamic nations and states round the question of Palestine and holy Jerusalem out of consideration that this issue is the No 1 issue of the Islamic world, and to muster all Islamic efforts for the protection of the question of Palestine and the defeat of Israeli aggression in the entire occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including Jerusalem, and to consider this as a prerequisite of the jihad.

5. The committee reaffirms its appeal to the kings and presidents of the Islamic states to take decisive attitudes, including the severance of diplomatic and economic relations with the states which decide to transfer their embassies to Jerusalem, or recognize the annexation of Jerusalem by the Zionist entity.

6. To call on the Islamic states to be in full solidarity with the Palestinian revolution, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon to confront the aggressive Israeli threats and provocations.

7. The committee salutes and appreciates the African countries, which are members of the Islamic Congress Organization, for the continuous efforts they are making at the level of the OAU for the purpose of deepening the understanding of the African member states of the Middle East question, and encourages them to continue these efforts with the aim of continuing these states' support and backing for the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. It calls on the African member-states of the Islamic Congress to make every effort so that the African states will not resume relations with Israel in any form unless the Palestinian question is solved on a just and durable basis based on the realization of the national and inalienable rights of the Palestinian people which will enable the latter to exercise their right to self-determination and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil under the leadership of their sole and legitimate representative--the PLO.

8. To consider any political, military, financial, economic or manpower support presented to Israel as sharing in and encouraging its aggression against the holy places and in its expansionist practices, the annexation and settlement of the occupied Arab and Palestinian lands.

9. To extend thanks and appreciation to all countries which have supported and continue to support the Arab and Islamic right in Palestine, at the United Nations and the Security Council.

10. To hold a special session of the United Nations General Assembly on Jerusalem and the Palestinian problem as soon as possible.

In the information field: 1. the committee points to the efforts of the Council of Islamic Countries ambassadors in some Islamic capitals and recommends the spreading of this activity in the other capitals by giving it a strong impetus based on an information plan to be prepared by the General Secretariat and the provision of the necessary documents to the council.

2. In view of the special situation of Lebanon as a link between the Islamic and Christian worlds and in view of the presence of a numerous and effective Lebanese community in European countries and the two Americas, the committee sees the importance of involving those Lebanese institutions and communities and other Arab communities in those countries in explaining the Palestinian problem and the problem of Jerusalem.

3. To approve the information plan prepared by the General Secretariat in cooperation with the Jerusalem Committee and to draw up a timetable and to allocate the necessary funds for its implementation.

4. To hold a special conference on Jerusalem in Paris this year and to prepare similar conferences in other capitals and to discuss such possibilities.

5. To entrust a group of experts and men of ideas, in cooperation with the General Secretariat, with the task of drawing up a document concerning Jerusalem which confirms its Arabism and highlights its importance to Muslims, culturally, spiritually and politically.

6. To form national associations in member countries to mobilize the Islamic peoples and deepen their knowledge of the problem of holy Jerusalem along the lines of the associations existing in some Arab countries.

7. The need for news agencies and the mass media in Islamic countries to give the due importance and care to the news of the Palestinian Mujahidin and the development of the Palestinian problem, and make known the religious importance of Jerusalem and the rest of the occupied Palestinian cities and towns and follow up the struggle of the Palestinian population who is standing fast in the face of Zionist occupation and to spread the news of the achievements and victories of the Palestinian revolution at the Islamic and international levels.

In the field of contact with the Christian world:

1. To express thanks to his holiness the pope for his speech at the United Nations and for the consistency of the Vatican in rejecting the annexation of Arab Jerusalem by the Zionist entity.

2. To continue contacts with his holiness the pope and the Vatican in the manner which His Majesty King Hassan II, chairman of the Jerusalem Committee, deems fit.

3. To continue contacts with the rest of the Christian world. [passage indistinct]

The Jerusalem Committee has discussed Clause Four and last of its agenda related to the report submitted to it by the board of the Jerusalem Fund adopted at the latter's third session. It ratified it and recommended the addition of new proposals to be discussed by the Islamic Solidarity Fund and the Jerusalem Fund at their first meeting on condition that their recommendations shall be submitted to the Jerusalem Committee at an extraordinary session to be held in Islamabad, in the event of His Majesty King Hassan II's approval to hold such a meeting prior to the 11th meeting of the Islamic Congress. These recommendations are:

1. To benefit from voluntary donations given by Islamic individuals, organizations, and nations.

2. To establish societies in the Islamic member-countries for collecting donations for the Jerusalem Fund.

3. To adopt the principle of fixing the percentages of the shares of the member-countries in the capital of the Jerusalem Fund according to their contributions to the budget of the General Secretariat.

4. To benefit from the programs of the beginning of the 15th century to provide additional incomes for the Jerusalem Fund.

5. To discuss the possibility of amalgamating and unifying the Islamic Solidarity Fund with the Jerusalem Fund.

At the end of its work, the Jerusalem Committee decided to adopt the speeches made by the heads of the Moroccan kingdom, the Republic of Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the PLO, and the Hashimite Kingdom of Jordan as documents of the committee. The heads of the delegations of the countries which are members of the committee expressed their profound thanks and appreciation to His Majesty King Hassan II, the Moroccan Government and people for the warm welcome and hospitality and the excellent organization, a matter which had a great effect on rendering the work of this historic session of the Jerusalem committee successful.

Greetings to your majesty, and God's blessings. [applause]

'ARAFAT DENOUNCES ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT ON SHAM'UN

NC121307 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 12 Mar 80 NC

[Text] PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat has sent Major Midhat to former President Sham'un to denounce the crime in the name of the PLO.

'ARAFAT MEETS INDIAN AMBASSADOR, ZIMBABWE DELEGATION

NC308832 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0515 GMT 13 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar has received the Indian ambassador to Lebanon. It has been learned that at this meeting brother Abu 'Ammar received a letter from Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. The letter confirmed India's support for the Palestinian people's struggle under their sole legitimate representative; namely, the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Furthermore, the letter dealt with the Indian Government's views on the developments in the area.

Brother Abu 'Ammar also received a delegation of the Zimbabwe African National Union [ZANU]. Head of the PLO Political Department brother Abu al-Lutf attended the meeting. The conferees discussed latest developments in the Arab and international situations and in particular developments in the Palestinian issue.

Brother Abu 'Ammar asked the delegation to convey his congratulations to the prime minister of independent Zimbabwe, Robert Mugabe, the leader of the ZANU movement who recently won the elections.

KUWAIT

UK OFFICIAL MEETS WITH DEFENSE MINISTER, MIDEAST TOPICS DISCUSSED

LD121130 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Minister of Defense Shaykh Salim as-Sabah met in his office at the Ministry of Defense this morning with British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Douglas Hurd, who is now on a visit to Kuwait. The British official was accompanied by the British ambassador to Kuwait and the Kuwaiti ambassador to the United Kingdom. A radio and television correspondent has learned that during the meeting the two sides reviewed the international situation in general and conditions in the Middle East and the Palestinian question in particular. They also discussed items of mutual interest.

British View on Palestine

LD121454 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1229 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait--British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Douglas Hurd continued his talks with senior Kuwaiti officials here today on bilateral cooperation and important political issues, particularly the Middle East crisis and the Palestinian question.

On the third day of his visit here, Hurd conferred with Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah and with Oil Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah as-Sabah. Later he held talks with Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Rashid ar-Rashid.

Officials have said that the first two meetings dealt with issues connected with arms, oil and energy, while his meeting with Ar-Rashid was a continuation of the political talks which the British minister conducted with the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs and Acting Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn. These latter talks centered on the Middle East.

Informed sources have said that Kuwait has asked Britain "to go even further" than the stand which France declared recently, under which it recognized the rights of the Palestinian people to self-determination. However, the British Government, according to the sources, is apparently content with backing the French stand, declared during Valery Giscard d'Estaing's visit to Kuwait early this month.

The sources said Britain admits that the more acceptable formula to resolve the Middle East crisis--namely Security Council Resolution No 242--is inadequate in its present form because it does not contain any reference to the political rights of the Palestinian people.

The sources added that Britain believes it would be more appropriate in this context to add a clause to the resolution, issued in 1967 and rejected by the PLO because it refers to the Palestinian question only as a question of refugees.

However, the British, according to these sources, believe that any move in this direction must wait until after the end of the period fixed for the negotiations between Egypt and Israel under U.S. patronage about the establishment of Palestinian autonomy in the occupied West Bank and the Gaza Strip. This period expires on the 25th of next May.

The sources said that Kuwait wants Britain and the other European countries to recognize the PLO officially. Kuwait and most of the other Arab states feel that the time has come for taking such a step and that there is no justification for delaying it. Britain said that it would recognize the organization if it recognizes Israel's right to existence.

Report on Press Conference

LD121754 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Text] British Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Douglas Hurd said that any solution to the Middle East crisis must recognize the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination within a framework of a settlement that takes place through negotiations among the parties concerned. He told a press conference this afternoon that the PLO is considered an important factor in solving the Middle East question because it speaks on behalf of the majority of the Palestinian people and therefore its participation in any settlement is inevitable.

Hurd refused to give a clear answer about his country's attitude toward the recognition of the PLO by saying that no European government has yet recognized the organization and that the British stand toward recognition remains unchanged. The British minister said that the British Government, together with its EEC partners, is studying whether there is a way that would help improve the chances of finding a just and durable settlement in the Middle East. He added that these states have not yet made a decision on the matter.

Ends Visit

LD130950 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0806 GMT 13 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait--Douglas Hurd, British minister of state for foreign affairs, left Kuwait for home today at the end of a 4-day visit to North Yemen. Hurd conducted talks with senior Kuwaiti officials on bilateral relations, developments in the Middle East crisis, the security of the Gulf and the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

OMAN

GOVERNMENT SENDS RELIEF AID TO IRAN'S FLOOD VICTIMS

JN121703 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1650 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Muscat, 12 March--The Sultanate of Oman sent the first shipment of relief aid today to the flood victims in Iran's Khuzestan region. The second shipment is scheduled to be dispatched tomorrow morning.

PDRY

PRIME MINISTER CONGRATULATES MUGABE ON VICTORY

LD081852 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 8 Mar 80 LD/EA

[Summary] Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has sent a cable to Robert Mugabe. It reads:

"I am happy to send you, in my own name and in the name of the people and Government of the PDRY, our best warm and sincere congratulations on the occasion of your splendid victory. Your victory has once again proved that peoples struggling against imperialism and racism are always the victors, and no power can ever suppress them or extinguish the torch of their revolutionary and humanitarian objectives.

"Your formation of a coalition government comprising your comrades in arms and struggle is also deemed an important gain for Zimbabwe's revolution and resolute confirmation that the struggle of the national liberation movement, whatever difficulties and hardships it faces, will inevitably triumph.

"I have the pleasure to take this opportunity to express to you our desire to create relations of constructive cooperation based on mutual respect and benefit between our two peoples and governments."

SAUDI ARABIA

DEFENSE MINISTER ON PLANS TO ESTABLISH MILITARY INDUSTRY

LD121732 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1530 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpts] Riyadh--His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, minister of defense and aviation, has said that the Third 5-Year Plan contains projects for the development of military factories in Al-Kharj for the manufacturing of certain munition and arms required by the armed forces. He said that there are future plans for the creation of a heavy military industry, and that the countries of the Arabian Peninsula and the Gulf hope to be able to congratulate themselves for establishing that kind of industry.

In statements he made following his visit to the military factories in Al-Kharj today, his royal highness the minister of defense and aviation said he was proud of what he has seen at these factories and of the industrial development drawn up by his majesty the king and the crown prince in the Third 5-Year Plan.

His royal highness the minister of defense and aviation said that the study with regard to the establishment of an organization for military industry in place of the Arab Military Industry Organization will begin when we complete liquidating our relations with the firms which had dealings with the four member-states of that organization so that the new organization will be based on a better organized level. His highness said: We blame these firms for declining to respond to the three states and for the responsibility of the firms toward Egypt which announced that it was continuing in this organization, since Egypt was in charge of its relations with the firms. The firms believe that the three states have obligations toward them. The three states, however, dissolved the organization because of Egypt's anti-Arab attitude.

Replying to a question whether new arms deals were concluded between the kingdom and France during the visit of French President Giscard d'Estaing 2 days ago, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan affirmed that the relations between France and the kingdom are very good whether in the field of military or economic cooperation, but he did not discuss military topics during the visit.

Replying to what is being reiterated that the events of Afghanistan are considered as a first step for Soviet intervention in the oil fields, the minister of defense and aviation said that the oil fields are not an easy prey for anyone--not to the Soviets nor to the West because the men of the oil fields are protecting them and whoever wants to benefit from themmust benefit by befriending the oil states.

ALGERIAN ENERGY MINISTER ARRIVES FOR TALKS 12 MAR

LD120946 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0735 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpts] Riyadh--Belkacem Nabi, Algerian minister of energy and petrochemical industries, arrived in Riyadh this morning for a visit to the kingdom. During his visit the minister will hold talks with Shaykh Zaki Yamani about relations between the two countries and a number of petroleum questions of mutual interest.

PELESTINIAN LEADER HAILS KINGDOM'S SUPPORT

LD130946 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0710 GMT 13 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Riyadh--Khalil al-Hasan, member of the Fatah movement Central Committee, hailed the support the kingdom is giving to the Palestinian question and said this stand of the kingdom toward the Palestinian question is unconditional. It constitutes an effective support to the Palestinian question in view of the weight the kingdom represents at both the Arab and international level.

In a statement made to AL-JAZIRAH and published today, the Palestinian official condemned the suspect practices which certain Western information media resort to in an attempt to harm the firm relations between the kingdom and the Palestinian revolution.

AR-RIYAD ASSAILS AS-SADAT'S 'TATTERED' REGIME

LD121415 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 9 Mar 80 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Democracy of the Wretched Ones"]

[Excerpts] The tattered Egyptian regime is beginning to shake. The falsehood of openness is being exposed and opposition is growing after the truth about Cairo officials has come to light. They have involved themselves in a large-scale conspiracy against their own people and their religion and have sold themselves to the Zionist devil in return for a handful of false promises fabricated by Washington, Tel Aviv and other capitals that bear malice against the Arabs and the Muslims. For the second time within a short period demonstrators have marched in Egypt calling for the downfall of the corrupt regime and demanding that the snake's head be crushed before it grows stronger and brings more calamities to the people.

Every voice ringing out in Egypt today against the clique of rulers and their suppression of the people is evidence that the deceitful regime is digging its own grave and speeding toward its own end.

While this is happening we hear the ambassador of the malicious regime [to Israel] boasting about democracy, singing the praises of the unjust Israeli regime, and urging the Egyptians to emulate the "correct regime which every Egyptian must come to know."

This is what the Cairo ambassador said, which constitutes an act of one-upmanship over his president.

The [Egyptian] prime minister, a learned man of his time, joined the ambassador and the president in the contest for bringing humiliation and disgrace upon themselves when he criticized the French president's statement on the need to give the Palestinians the right to self-determination.

Where is the democracy which the trumpet of the "faithful one" is boasting about and why does he not apply it in his country before boasting about it in someone else's country?

Does the Israeli-Egyptian democracy mean building settlements and Cairo's collapsing regime giving support for these settlements? Does Israeli democracy mean besieging the refugee camps for months, daily destroying these camps, terrorizing the inhabitants, killing the innocent and violating the holy places in daylight?

Has the Cairo regime become so ridiculous and has democracy stooped so low there?

The corrupt Egyptian regime is sinful but does not wish to hide its sins. But how could it do so if it is so absolutely unashamed?

UAE

SOMALI PRESIDENT, DELEGATION CONTINUE TALKS

Presidents Meet

JN120950 Doha QNA in Arabic 0830 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 12 March--Official talks between UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre, who is currently visiting Abu Dhabi, resumed this morning. An official Somali source stated that the talks dealt with bilateral relations, the situation in the Middle East and the Horn of Africa, with emphasis on the Palestine question, developments in the Arab and Muslim world and events in the area.

The source added that the Somali president reviewed with Shaykh Zayid the results of the former's visit to Iraq, Qatar and Saudi Arabia. The source described the Somali president's talks with leaders of these countries as fruitful and successful.

The Somali president is expected to leave this afternoon for the town of Al-'Ayn on a 3-day private visit.

Meetings End; Ministers Depart

JN121441 Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1315 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 12 March--The round of talks held between the UAE and Somalia at the Al-Musharraf Palace this morning have concluded. Following the session, which lasted 75 minutes, UAE Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid 'Abdallah said that a comprehensive assessment was made of all joint issues and the possibility of promoting bilateral cooperation, in addition to means of strengthening existing bilateral relations in various fields.

He added that the talks also dealt with a number of Arab and international issues, particularly by the situation in the Horn of Africa, the Arab cause and those issues currently of interest in the Islamic arena. He also noted that the Somali president explained the problems facing Somalia due to the repeated Ethiopian aggression against Somali territories. In conclusion, the UAE minister said that the two countries' viewpoints were in agreement on all topics discussed.

Somali Foreign Minister Dr Abdurahman Jama Barre and Minister of State for the President Dr Mohamed (Saeed) Samantar [name as received] left the UAE for Mogadishu this afternoon.

VICE PRESIDENT RECEIVES PAKISTANI ADMIRAL

JN121110 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1010 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Dubayy, 12 March--UAE Vice President and Prime Minister Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum today received Admiral Ahmed (Zamir), deputy commander of the Pakistani naval forces, and the accompanying delegation currently visiting the UAE. Earlier, the Pakistani admiral and delegation were received by UAE Defense Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Rashid.

YAR

FOREIGN MINISTER DEPARTS FOR LIBYA WITH MESSAGE

JN121356 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Dr Hasan Makki, deputy prime minister for foreign affairs and foreign affairs minister, left San'a' for Tripoli this morning on a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. In a statement to the SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Dr Hasan Makki said that he is carrying a written message from brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, to his brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, which deals with issues of common concern to the two fraternal states and the current Arab situation.

Dr Makki said this visit falls within the framework of consultations and exchanging viewpoints, particularly in these difficult circumstances through which the Arab nation is passing. Dr Makki affirmed the fraternal relations linking the YAR and Libya, and particularly the personal ties between President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and his brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Dr Makki added that these relations are very strong.

GOVERNMENT REPORTEDLY ASKS PDRY TO REDUCE RELIANCE ON EAST

JN121300 Paris AL-MUSTAQBAL in Arabic 8 Mar 80 p 13 JN

[Text] The YAR has told the PDRY that its continued cooperation with the Soviet Union and Cuba will negatively affect the current unity talks between the two countries. San'a' asked Aden to reduce its reliance on the Eastern camp if it has good wishes for the area.

AS-SADAT STRESSES 26 MAY DEADLINE

NC090925 Cairo MENA in English 0902 GMT 9 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, March 9 (MENA)--President Anwar As-Sadat said that in case the Palestine autonomy negotiations produce no settlement or sufficient progress by the May 26 deadline, "A new situation would arise." The president made this statement in an interview with Georgie Anne Geyer, Middle East specialist and columnist for Los Angeles TIMES, published in 80 newspapers in the United States of America. He declined to elaborate on what Egypt would do in such a contingency, but said: "Whatever we are going to do will be in the context of peace." He said he was determined that the Palestine autonomy issue should be settled by May 26. "We must not take it lightly," he said, "It is a deadline. It is not a target date."

He said he was optimistic because he was sure that Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin "would not stop in the middle of the road." President as-Sadat said he was not concerned about the American turnabout over the Israeli settlements vote. The essential thing, he said, is that the United States considers those settlements as illegal. "This is quite sufficient," he added.

President as-Sadat said he was "astonished" at Israel's opposition to American arms supplies to Egypt. Those arms, he said, would not be used against Israel. Egypt should be militarily strong because it is the only country in the area that could come to the aid of any Arab nation under aggression which requests Egyptian aid. The president said he has given military facilities for the United States in Egypt so that the U.S. could rush to the aid of any Arab country under such aggression. He pointed out that the Soviet Union was establishing a "crescent" starting from Afghanistan down to Iran, South Yemen, Ethiopia and Angola. He warned that South Yemen's approaches to North Yemen were a Soviet design.

He shrugged off the claims of some Arab Gulf leaders that the Gulf states can defend themselves. He said these Gulf states cannot defend themselves without the aid of the United States. President as-Sadat traced his peace initiative to a private meeting he had with President Jimmy Carter at the White House in February 1977. He said details of the meeting would be given in his forthcoming book. The text of the interview follows:

Questions: Mr President, what is your reaction to the United States' turnabout in the UN vote on the Israeli settlements, first condemning the settlements and then saying it was a "mistake"?

Answer: This is not a newly adopted position by the United States. The position of the United States has been stated before many times, and at Camp David also. The United States considers the settlements as illegal, and the United States has never changed. And the United States, with regard to Jerusalem, has always maintained the same position: That Jerusalem should not be divided, and all the changes that have taken place in the Old City are illegal. This is the position of the United States.

Nothing new has happened. If they say that part of the decision said that present settlements should be dismantled--and the United States said afterwards that they did not agree to this after they voted--it will not change the main issue, which is that the settlement issue is illegal. So I do not see any contradiction and I cannot understand the reaction from the Israeli side. But maybe if I say I cannot understand, I mean it was exaggerated. Yes, I understand, because they consider any reaction from the United States very important for them. And for that they make this fuss about a position that has always been the same.

Question: How do you feel about the American response as we first voted for, and then turned about. Does this concern you?

Answer: I will clarify the situation. They did not say it was a mistake. They said that their position on the settlements issue remains as it is, "illegal." Their main clarification was on the already built settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, but this will never change the substance of the whole thing. Let me drop all this, as the United States position on the settlements is that this issue is "illegal." It is okay. Nothing will, I mean, be contradictory in this.

Question: Are you concerned about the effect you will have in the Arab world against the United States? It looks to many people as though in effect the American policy is dictated from Jerusalem. Are you concerned about the effect it will have? Are you personally concerned about it?

Answer: Well, for sure I am concerned that the clarification of the United States would not be correctly interpreted, or deliberately twisted. For that, for sure I am concerned, but the fact is quite obvious. The United States' stand on the settlements is that this is illegal. This is quite sufficient.

Question: Mr President, many of us are wondering what you expect to happen by May 26. If by this time the question is not decided, or if there is not enough progress, what would you do and what do you expect the United States would do, and what do you consider regarding the promises of President Carter?

Answer: Well, in the first place, let me tell you this. There has never been any new promises from the American President in this state of affairs. We have started this peace process, Carter and I. Maybe no one knows when, but let me put the real facts. This peace process has been started by Carter and me the night we met in February, 1977. Immediately after this we were in his apartment in the White House. We had a private dinner. We had a long talk after that. We agreed upon the framework of the peace process for the future, and it may be interesting also to know that my initiative, when I made it in 1977, did not come from a vacuum. As I told you, many months before that, and in February, we agreed Carter and myself together, to start this peace process and continue it. For sure at that time I had no idea that I was going to make an initiative also, but we agreed to follow this way. And for that, when it appeared at the end of the summer of 1977, and precisely in October 1977, that the peace process was not gaining momentum but, on the contrary, was stagnant, I received a personal letter from Carter who reminded me first of our meeting in which we pledged together to continue this peace process, in the White House, as I told you, in February 1977. Well, he reminded me of this and he said that this is the state that we have reached now. And my answer to him was that there should be a certain bold action. At that time I did not at all have in my mind any idea about an initiative also, but I felt that the whole situation needs a bold action to be taken.

Well, since the United States under the Carter administration resumed its responsibility as the first superpower which is responsible for peace in the whole world, and for this the United States resumed its role as a full partner, we did not make any pledge to each other. It is only that both of us feel and work toward the achievement of peace. For that, as I told you, there are no promises in this precise moment or before: It is only when the United States acted as a full partner, it proved my theory when I had said that 99 percent of the cards are in the hands of the United States, and in this first meeting, I remember, in February 1977 with Carter, he told me you are wrong, we do not have 99 percent. Well, after it was proved at Camp David that without the United States we could not have achieved any momentum for the peace process despite my initiative, well, I told him, what is your idea, my dear Jimmy. It is not 99 percent. It is 100 percent.

Question: Some people are saying now that the American Government is going back on its commitment?

Answer: No, this is a misunderstanding. As I told you, the positions on the issues are the same, as they were said many times before Camp David, in Camp David and after Camp David. But let me tell you this, when we pledged together in our first meeting in his flat in the White House, he did not classify certain subjects in the process, but we pledged together that the peace process should gain momentum and achieve peace, comprehensive peace in the area, since that time until this moment there is no precise, I mean, classification for this or that. It is the whole process as a process.

Question: Mr President, about that meeting, I do not recall having heard a lot about it. Have you written about that meeting much?

Answer: Not yet, but in my new book I am writing, in my new book I mentioned this. In my new book there is a chapter about Carter and our dealings together, because of what we have achieved here in this area, and, let me say in all candor, which could never have been achieved without the United States and Carter. When they said that I won the Nobel prize, I declared that the unknown soldier behind this was President Carter.

Question: That meeting in February 1977, could you tell me a bit more about it? How, what was said? This is very interesting.

Answer: Why not wait until my book appears. You will spoil my business this way, especially as I am donating its revenue to the two Mit Abu al-Kawm villages, the old one and the new one in Sinai.

Question: Do you really see progress in the Palestinian autonomy talks? I heard from people close to the meeting that there was very little progress.

Answer: Yes, Yes. In the last meeting in The Hague there has not been any progress, quite candidly. But still I am quite optimistic. Despite this I am optimistic.

Question: Why?

Answer: Why? Number one, by nature I am optimistic. Number two, I do not think, from what I know of Menahem Begin, and despite all the difficulties he is facing there and the difficulties around Israel, I am sure he will not stop in the middle of the road. And that is what I told him, let us not stop in the middle of the road. Let us continue the process that we started together.

Question: Mr President, what is your reaction about the Hebron settlement and how Begin explained it?

Answer: Let me tell you this. If we start exchanging our views on television or radio or the press, and everyone, I mean, tries to gain a strategic gain here or there, the whole thing will collapse. I always aim to deal with the main issue. And the main issue now is the full autonomy that we have agreed upon in Camp David. Well, any other side issues I am not ready to start fighting over, because whenever we reach a settlement upon the main issue, the full autonomy, all the other issues automatically will be solved. This is my way.

Question: In recent Egyptian pronouncements, it seems to me that there has been a harder line about the May deadline. Are you determined that it should be settled by May?

Answer: For sure. We must not take it lightly. It is a deadline. It is not a target date. It should be a deadline. By now we have known each other. We have exchanged ambassadors, our borders are open, and by car they come from Israel and go from Egypt.

[Cairo MENA in English at this point becomes indistinct. The following passage in quotes was translated from the Cairo MENA Arabic version of the interview transmitted at 0910 GMT: "The El Al aviation company began its flights to Cairo a few days ago. Well, each of us knows the other. It is 1 year now since we have established mutual trust. We have reached agreement on the withdrawal to the Al-'Arish-Ra's Muhammad line and all the accomplishments which the two sides have achieved. I believe that all this must prompt us to respect this date. You might remember what happened and the difficulties we faced before Camp David and during a period of (?several) months since the Camp David meeting and the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. I think that what we faced at that time was much more difficult than what we are facing now."]

Question: If it is not met by May, or if there is no real progress, would Egypt take any new action?

Answer: Let me tell you this. A new situation would arise at that moment; and as I am accustomed, let us not cross the bridge before we reach it. But let me tell you this. Whatever we are going to do will be in the context of peace. We have achieved great achievement in the past two years; namely, no war after the October War. We have dropped this language, so we shall have a position that will depend on what will be there on this 26th of May, and which for sure will take all the dimensions of the problem at that time.

Question: So there will be a new situation?

Answer: For sure.

Question: Mr President, what about the military aspects. I do not want to sound negative in this, but the Israelis in Washington, as you know, have been lobbying very very actively against the military aid to Egypt. Are you concerned about this? Is there anything you can do about it?

Answer: This is a very unfortunate thing, and the day I received the credentials of the Israeli ambassador, I told the Israeli television that really I was astonished. And I stopped after the word astonished.

But I did not want to exploit the situation, as I feel the understanding in the Congress and the Senate and the President and mainly among the American people themselves. There is a geopolitical situation here around us that makes it very urgent for us to have our armed forces always in readiness, not against Israel, because now the Israelis are crossing Sinai by car, but because of what is taking place around us, starting with Afghanistan through Iran to South Yemen to Ethiopia to Libya. This is a crescent, and they are now miles from the Gulf, the Russians. So it is not only defending my country but also defending any one of my colleagues in the Arab world who asks for this, because the only eligible country and power now in the area is Egypt. And lastly because we shall never ask any one to send a soldier to fight our battles for us. We shall fight our battles as we have done before. For all these reasons and for the urgency of the situation around us, I was very deeply astonished.

Question: I am going tomorrow to North Yemen. It looks very serious and you mentioned you are very concerned about that.

Answer: Yes, I am very concerned, I am very concerned. And in this respect I shall always blame our colleagues in Saudi Arabia, because when South Yemen attacked North Yemen, they should not have taken the two presidents in Kuwait for reconciliation, because the outcome of this is that South Yemen is now, I mean, exerting influence on North Yemen. And more than that, they have concluded a pact with the Soviet Union in the daylight. If South Yemen had been confronted when it attacked North Yemen, it would have thought many times before doing this. But our colleagues in Saudi Arabia are to blame because I myself could not reach Yemen except through Saudi Arabia. I could not go direct. And despite this I sent to North Yemen all the ammunition it asked for. But there should have been a lesson that every tank that crosses the border from South Yemen into North Yemen should not have returned at all. This would have given them a lesson, and the Soviet Union also.

Question: Mr President, this brings us to the whole situation, and I was always interested in the excellent idea of the strategic balance. How do you see it going now, and also would you foresee any changes in the near future in your relations with the Arab neighbours?

Answer: Well, let me tell you this. In many circles they have always stated that I am much more of a strategist than a tactician, and this is quite right. The situation around us is heading towards being alarming, really alarming.

Afghanistan has been captured by the Soviets in daylight, and from what they are doing now they aim to stay. And, exactly as President Carter said, this is the most dangerous act from the Soviet Union since the Second World War. Among my Arab colleagues, unfortunately, there is this feeling of either prejudice, hatred or ignorance, or all of them together, for they know quite well that they cannot defend themselves against the Soviet Union despite someone here or there in the Gulf saying we shall defend ourselves without the help of the United States, when he knows, and all of us know, and the United States knows, that the only help will come from the United States.

This is very unfortunate for my colleagues in the Arab world. Well, I do not attach any importance to this, except if the United States believes this--and they do not believe this--or continue the same policy of the Vietnam complex. It appears that what has taken place there in Iran has awakened the United States to resume its responsibility. But let me tell you this: Three years before, when I was in the Senate and Congress, I discussed first the whole thing with President Carter. Carter has a strategic mentality. The man understood and told me, please go and convince the Senate and the Congress.

And in the minutes three years ago, you shall see that I told them: It is now Zaire and Angola on the western side of Africa. The next move will be on the eastern side of Africa. And it came in South Yemen, Ethiopia and the treaty between South Yemen and the Soviet Union, Jumping over Bab al-Mendab. And at that time I said this to members of the Senate and the Congress; and I told them I am a very small nation; I am not a superpower; but, I shall help my colleagues in Somalia and in Oman.

Well, this has taken place three years now. What is happening now? They are now seeking Somalia and Oman. I said: By God I will be helping them; and I am a very poor country, but we have there two leaders who are really free leaders, who really want to build their countries, and the inspiration of their peoples are always behind them--not like the other Gulf states or their family states as I call them, including Iraq, which is a family state, also. So now, they are seeking Oman, Somalia and Kenya.

Question: I really wondered how you are trying to appeal to the psychology of the Israelis?

Answer: I was told that someone was saying: Who is doing the public relations for As-Sadat. Well, no one is doing the public relations for me. Believe me, it is this, whatever I say I mean. And more than that, I never feel balanced except when I feel I am genuine--that my actions reach the heart, not the brain. It is not among the Israelis only, but among my people also.

So I am very happy with this, and whenever I face a situation I always put myself in the others shoes--not only my position or what I am going to gain. I am always putting the other side in my full consideration; and as I told you, it is the true price to be genuine.

Question: This is really in your nature, this was not a tactic or...

Answer: No, no I think that two years since my initiative, and even before my initiative, whoever tries to follow me during the last ten years when I became president, I have never gone back on one word and I always honour my commitment. More than that, not honour but --as I have stated before--if Israel takes one step, I shall take two. And it has been shown in the normalization, for instance. Lots of things needed six months, according to Camp David. I said: Why six months, why not six hours? This is the way I am dealing. It is not cleverness or some far-reaching so-and-so. I am a very simple villager, and I have my pride in my principles, the principles of this country, and, I always try to be in union with God. Someone may not believe this, but this is true.

Question: Are there any agreements right now about American use of bases here?

Answer: Well, let me tell you this. We are one of the founders, one of the three founders of non-alignment in the world. It was Nasir, Tito and Nehru. And because we have a very terrible memory of the British occupation here and the stationing of foreign forces on our land, we are a very proud people.

If you ask me about bases, I shall no. For instance, if in the State Department there had been Dulles and he would have asked, not for a base but for facilities, the answer would have been no, no, no.

Jimmy Carter never asked me for facilities; and I am sure Jimmy Carter heard it from me, and maybe he was astonished when I said one day--I came out and said--I am ready to give the United States facilities to reach any Arab state in the Gulf which needs help. And I am ready to give facilities--a complete difference between any imposing of any situation and coordinating with our friends for the benefit of peace in the world, not for occupation. So this is the nature of what I have already done, because of this alarming situation, that is, as I told you, in the way to be alarmed. [as received] I stood and declared: I am ready to give the United States facilities to reach the Gulf and any Arab state that asks for the help of the United States. And they have no other one to go to in the Gulf, despite what they say now that they will defend themselves, no, no. They have no other one to go to except the United States. Today there is a report that the Soviet Union declared that there should be an international meeting, with the United States excluded, to discuss buying oil. They want to buy their share of the oil of the Gulf. Well, this is very alarming.

I think this was reported by TASS. I have no objection to any one buying oil. This is the matter of each country. They have to decide to whom they will sell their oil. But I see in this a very vicious approach to the whole thing.

Question: On the Afghan rebels, you said that you are training some. Can you give any more idea about that?

Answer: No.

Question: What about the PLO now and the other Arab societies? Do you see anything in the future by which relations would improve again?

Answer: They have chosen to sever the relations with me. And it is up to them to decide for themselves, as we are deciding for ourselves. There is a paper that I will be submitting next week about the history of Egypt and the Arab world, in which I will be asking the country to decide on the future relations after I decided with the government about our action against their action of transferring the Arab League to Tunis. And I informed my parliament of this decision, and, it is that we shall form not an Arab states league, but we shall form an Arab and Muslim peoples league. Not states, league. This is our action against the decision to transfer the Arab League. And if they ask tomorrow to return to Egypt in the same building, we shall refuse. It was born dead, the Arab league of states, but on the severing of the relations with Egypt. This paper I told you about will be submitted to all my people here all over the country everywhere, to be studied and then we shall decide upon it.

Question: How will it operate?

Answer: Well, there should be a certain charter for it. This charter should be drafted by the Arab and the Muslim peoples organizations all over the world--the Muslim and the Arab world. I hope this will take place at the end of next summer.

Question: So there will be peoples organizations?

Answer: Peoples organization, not states or government organizations.

Question: You seem to speak about the Muslim situation. Did you feel any influence here from the Khomeyni fundamentalist Shi'ites?

Answer: Yes, there has been. I complained against this in one way or another. In America you have at sometime believed that this is Islam--what Khomeyni is doing there. Well, I came out and said this is not Islam at all. This is Khomeyni.

Islam means love, brotherhood, and let me tell you this. Maybe you do not know in the States that after Mecca all the Muslims look to Cairo, not because of Cairo, but because of Al-Azhar. Al-Azhar for a thousand years before. It is the oldest university in the whole world, as you know, and you have adopted this chair system of professors from Al-Azhar. Here in Al-Azhar University now--it is not a religious university teaching only religion--but now we have medicine, we have engineering and all trades in it. Maybe you do not know that we have students from all over the Muslim world in this Al-Azhar University and they have a complete campus for them to live in Al-Azhar, here in Cairo.

They are thousands--starting from Indonesia, Malaysia, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, all the Arab world, all the Muslim world, and from Africa also. So from this we shall show them what is Egypt in the Arab world and in the Muslim world. Well, I was very deeply concerned because at one time I said, as I told you, shame on my colleagues--the leaders of the Muslim world--who cannot come out and say that what Khomeyni is doing is not Islam.

Question: But you have not heard any underground reaction here from the Khomeyni sort of fanaticism, or has there been any political reaction here?

Answer: Not at all you know, thanks to God. This we can say is the only stable state in this area, for the very simple reason that we are a democracy, everything is told to the people. All this fanaticism is born under the police state system. We are not a police state; we are a democracy. You remember the day I was receiving the credentials of the Israeli ambassador. There were two press conferences calling all the foreign correspondents and telling them they are against the communist party, and the other, what we might call the opportunists and rejectionists. And let me tell you, like I told the Israeli people, that all of them are five thousand voters who said "no" against eleven million who said "yes." So it is of no significance. There are certain elements but of no significance because everything is told to the people. Democracy is a certain value, but my colleagues in the Arab world cannot understand this; and if they do what I am doing here or apply what I am applying here, they will not stay for one hour in their seats.

Question: Do you see any immediate future for joint ventures with Israelis or with American Jews?

Answer: Well, let me tell you this. The American Jews are welcome. They are Americans before everything, and we have no complexes in this. But what you call the regional cooperation, for instance, cannot take place before solving the Palestinian question, because we have agreed together that this is the core and crux of the whole problem. Let us solve it and then the regional coordination would take place. But until that, we shall have normal relations with Israel and we have no complex.

Question: Are you concerned about the transfer of and on the West Bank into Israeli hands?

Answer: For sure I am very concerned, not only in the West Bank, but in Gaza. I have a special responsibility towards Gaza. You know it was under the Egyptian administration and it has always been, as we have stated, a debt of honour for us to give it to its owners--and its owners are the Palestinians who live on it. So I am deeply concerned, yes. But, as I told you before, I am not for the side issues. I shall always fight for the main issues. This will solve the side issues automatically.

Question: What is the purpose of the law of shame?

Answer: It is not the law of shame, it is what you call in the States, ethics. It is the law of ethics. You have it everywhere. Even in the congress you have a committee for ethics. But my idea is this: There should not have been any need to issue such a law like this, because if everyone heeded the traditions and the ethics of this country, without which we could not survive and through which we survived two thousand years of foreign domination until the revolution of 1952--and you remember since 27 years I was one of those who started it--until 1952, there has been foreign domination in Egypt, and there has never been an Egyptian ruler. There were Turkish, or the royal family we had here, or Albanians or Romans. The Turks were here for four hundred years and then the Mamelukes.

The first Egyptian leader to come after two thousand years, came after we started our revolution in 1952. So we survived all this foreign domination because of a very special characteristic in our people. They are one. You shall never distinguish between any one in Egypt. We do not have any racial differences, any religious differences at all. Egypt has always been, during thousands of years, one people united, and it is the "a-b-c-" in our upbringing to heed the ethics of this country. And you know that religion is part of our blood here. Unfortunately, there are those very few who are trying to preach hatred, opportunism, new ideas that drop every tradition. Well, this is the only because of the law of ethics. It should not have been issued. But for instance, take an example: The communists, they are preaching hatred between the classes, between the people and they declared officially that the 18 and 19 January incidents in 1977 here were a national uprising. It was a robbers' uprising.

In this same year I made my initiative. Could it have been a national uprising and I would have been standing on solid ground and go to Jerusalem? This was not a national uprising. This is one part of them who have no ethics in this country, and who are atheist. And this against everything in our country, atheism. Another example, those journalists who are abusing their country in Iraq, Paris and London. Is it difference of opinion? No, it is not difference of opinion. I do not think any American journalist would abuse his country and choose to use a broadcasting station in certain countries who are opposed to his country whether it is an Arab country or not. Remember Lippman--Walter Lippmann--who was a commentator and was very famous. When he found that he was fed up with Johnson, he left the States and went to Europe and said, "I am not going to write anything." But he never abused America in Europe.

Question: What are those journalists saying?

Answer: They are abusing their country. Could you agree to this?

Question: No.

Answer: There is a complete difference between criticism and difference of opinion and the opposition to their homeland to the ethics of this land. These are the only sections which come under the law of ethics. Well, 99.9 percent of my country are heeding their ethics. But because they have loud voices, they said that this is against democracy. This is so and so. Very well, in America you have a clause saying whatever injures the Americans, I cannot remember the words, whatever touches the ethics. I knew about this, really. In a very interesting film that I have seen--and it was the biography of Clark Gable--you remember, and he has certain relations with a certain artist, Carol Lombard, I think. They loved each other. At one time, he became so full of himself because he was considered the king. You know, when they wanted to punish him and because he has his relations and he was married. In the court they accused him of hating the ethics of the American people. In this film the judge can decide to send him out of his job--if he was in the government--or cancel any contract between him and any company, because this concerns the ethics of the American people. I am not doing anything new here in this country. You have this law and you have it more. You have also the law that defends your system.

GHALI REITERATES NEED TO CONCLUDE AUTONOMY TALKS

TA121220 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 12 Mar 80 p 3 TA

[Report on Cairo correspondent 'Amos Elon's interview with Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali on 11 March]

[Text] May 26 is not a target date; it is the final date, Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali said yesterday in a special interview with HA'ARETZ. If no progress is made in the autonomy talks by then a new situation will be created and the "nature" of the normalization process will change. This does not necessarily mean that the number of Israelis who want to tour Egypt will be limited or that talks on cultural and trade exchanges will be stopped; but clearly, in that event, we "will not be building peace," we will be losing time and perhaps even be risking an incident which may paralyze the process, Ghali said.

"There is a de facto link between the autonomy talks and the normalization process," Ghali emphasized. This, he claims, clearly emerges from the Camp David agreement. "President as-Sadat complied with Weizman's pleas and has, in the last 4 weeks, accelerated the process as a gesture of good will. However, we are still waiting--so far in vain--for the implementation of pledges made by Weizman, Dayan and others to release Palestinian youths, to remove the military government commands from the West Bank and Gaza towns and other Israeli gestures which could ease Egypt's predicament vis-a-vis the Arab world." "If the autonomy talks do not progress,"--and so far, according to Ghali, they have been fruitless--"we will be forced to honor only the written letter and no more. Is this the peace we had craved, or the kind of peace Israel had hoped for?"

Ghali did not hide his deep disappointment concerning the manner in which the talks have been held so far. He maintains that Israel has not done anything to encourage moderates in the conquered territories to join the peace process. Real peace means conciliation, he said, and this will only be possible if the Palestinian problem is solved, or if we at least advance in trying to reach a solution, but even this minimum has not taken place as yet. On the contrary, in its declarations and settlement activities in the West Bank, Israel has hampered the chances that Palestinians would be willing to join forces with Egypt in the search for a comprehensive peace. He sees no point at this stage to consider an Israeli-Egyptian-U.S. summit; a meeting between Begin and As-Sadat may, at this juncture, be counterproductive.

Time and again Ghali repeated his claim that despite its pledge to release Palestinian detainees and remove the military commands from the West Bank and Gaza Strip towns, Israel has to date only released six detainees. It could be gathered from his remarks that for the sake of a deal with the PLO Israel had released dozens of Palestinian detainees, but to help Egypt--only six.

When Egypt signed the peace agreement it hoped to embark on a joint path with Israel and thought that the two countries would cooperate toward solving the basic problem--the Palestinian problem. This cooperation, Ghali maintains, has not been achieved, even though, admittedly, the Palestinians were not too constructive to that end either. However, Israel holds the main chips.

"As a result of the autonomy talks, we have lost our credibility both in the Arab world, among the Palestinians, in the Third World and in Europe," Ghali claims.

Legalists cite clauses, but a historian knows that there is no escaping giving the Palestinians political powers; it is merely a question of time. However, if we lose this opportunity opened up by As-Sadat, or if the talks reach a crisis, the solution may be put off for a decade, and this can prove a disaster.

Nevertheless, this gloomy man, who wants to see things not only through a diplomat's spectacles, but also through an historian's glasses, testifies that he is not unoptimistic, using as proof the fact that we are still negotiating. He fears that no substantial turn will occur in the next year both because of the elections in the United States, and due to the unclear political situation in Israel. The wisdom of statesmanship is to bridge that sterile year. Will we succeed? As long as we continue to hold talks all is not lost. Ghali is prepared to continue to talk and debate. No, he is not weary, even though he sometimes leaves that impression: He felt that he had been forsaken by his own family. The Israelis do not understand what it is to belong to the Third World, as Egypt does. It is a kind of traumatic experience to suddenly find oneself out.

Rather explicitly hinting at Ben-Elisar's "extremist" declarations made on the eve of his departure for Cairo--declarations for which he had been strongly attacked by the local press--Ghali noted that he believes in quiet, classic diplomacy, in ambassadors who try to iron out differences between governments; not in ambassadors who aggravate relations--which are in any event complex--by making unnecessary statements. According to Ghali, Ambassador Murtada is such a classic diplomat. Ghali's statements have more than once reflected the reservations--partly personal and partly substantive--with which Ben-Elisar had been received by Egyptian officials in the first 2 weeks of his appointment to Cairo.

The officials favor peace, Ghali said, but it is only natural that they remain reserved in light of Israel's refusal to implement "the spirit of the treaty" on the Palestinian issue. As-Sadat's statements made to the Israeli television, in which he stood up for Ben-Elisar, were not publicized here. Knowledgeable circles say this is not a coincidence.

AKHBAR AL-YAWM SEES UN RETRACTION AS 'GREAT LOSS' FOR U.S.

LD111153 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 8 Mar 80 p 16 LD

[Mustafa Amin column: "Idea"]

[Text] Yesterday I was visited by a large delegation of American businessmen who asked me my opinion of the U.S. stand. I told them:

Carter's retraction of the vote for the Security Council resolution could win him the election but lose him the Middle East. Presidential adviser for national security, Professor Brzezinski, was right in saying that this stand has harmed the United States in the Middle East.

Some people have begun to wonder: If Carter backtracked on the question of Palestine today, tomorrow he could backtrack on the question of aid, and the day after that he could backtrack on the question of defending the Middle East.

When Carter adopted a neutral stand toward the Arab-Israeli conflict, the United States regained much of what it had lost in the past years as a result of its total bias toward Israel.

When Carter advocated human rights, the United States regained its prestige as the country supporting freedom, the leader of the free world, and the country where the Statue of Liberty stands. The people wanted the United States to export democracy, freedom and justice with the same vigor as it exports automobiles, aircraft and computers.

We are not asking the United States to stand with Egypt and the Arabs; we are asking it to stand with U.S. interests and with the American people.

If it was the U.S. presidential election that made President Carter go back on his stand, so that he would win the Zionist votes, we would recall that President Eisenhower stood against Israel in the 1956 election and asked it to withdraw immediately and completely from every inch of land it occupied. He said that he would rather lose the presidential election than dishonor the United States. Israel complied and, at the same time, declared war on Eisenhower, but the American people defied Israel and returned Eisenhower with an unprecedented majority.

The Islamic people welcome the U.S. support for the Muslim Afghan people, but Afghanistan and Palestine are one and the same thing. Just as the Afghan people have the right to self-determination, we must demand the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people. We should not curse aggression against one state and defend aggression against another.

We believe that the campaign of hostility against the United States in Iran was so fierce because of the U.S. bias against the Arabs. It was also because of the U.S. support for the shah's despotism, repression of the Iranian people and violation of human rights.

It is said indeed that the United States should be compelled, under the pressure of Zionist votes, to abandon the black Ambassador Young and to retract its UN resolution, all within a few months.

The United States must realize that, if it adopted a just and courageous stand toward the Palestinian problem, it would achieve lasting peace in the Middle East and would close all doors against the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union infiltrated through these doors disguised as a supporter of the Arabs in Palestine. It demands freedom for a section of the Arabs while on the other hand wanting to enslave all the Arabs.

We will lose a great deal if the United States abandons the principles of justice, but the U.S. loss will be much greater.

AL-AKHBAR, AL-AHRAM COMMENT ON SITUATION IN SYRIA, SOVIET INVOLVEMENT

NC110933 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 11 Mar 80 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] The newspaper AL-AKHBAR attacks the decision to summon Soviet forces to Syria to support the collapsing 'Alawite Ba'thist regime. The paper says that the British weekly THE OBSERVER had said the same thing we said here when Gromyko came to Damascus last January. We said then that the main objective of this visit was to pave the way for the dispatch of Soviet forces to Syria. The Soviets insist on this because it is part of their new strategy to link up with the Middle East. This policy is based on armed intervention as in Afghanistan.

The paper says: It seems that the Soviets are in a hurry to intervene in Syria after the intensification of the popular resistance against the 'Alawite Ba'thists, which has become a threat to the ruling regime in Syria. The Soviets see the ground shaking under their agent regime. They fear that popular resistance will triumph over this regime, making them lose their presence in Syria and frustrating their hopes and ambitions in the Middle East. For this reason, the Soviets are in a hurry to move their forces to Syria before it is too late. The only thing they need now is a seemingly legitimate excuse to justify the dispatch of armed forces to Syria.

The paper adds: Al-Asad and his clique want this excuse to be acceptable to the Arab rejectionist group. It seems that they have found one, and this is the background to the press reports about the dispatch of Soviet forces to Syria.

The paper says: We think that it will not take long. The Soviets think that time is not in favor of this plan; therefore, they want to speed it up. But there is one aspect which still requires explanation, since Israel may not launch an attack--and this is clear, indeed. However, the matter does not require much thinking. The possibility of Syria initiating incidents to provoke an Israeli attack should not be ruled out. Syria will not lose anything by doing this; in fact it will win support from those who extend aid. Moreover, with the forces to be moved, the Soviets would put an end to such an attack, and they would have a situation on their hands similar to that in Afghanistan.

Concluding its article, AL-AKHBAR says: If we hear reports these days about tension on the Syrian-Israeli front and if we hear reports from Moscow and Damascus about Israeli preparations for an attack on Syria, all this is part of the Soviet plan for military intervention in Syria to support the national progressive regime--which is exactly the same excuse the Soviets used to justify their military intervention in Afghanistan. Who knows, perhaps some of the rejectionists would bless and support this as they did in the case of the intervention in Afghanistan.

The newspaper AL-AHRAM refers to the Syrian president's recent speech accusing Egypt and the United States of being responsible for the outbreak and intensification of the resistance in Syria against the collapsing 'Alawite Ba'thist regime. The paper says: What Al-Asad has said was not new to him. In his perplexity and confusion over the angry uprising against this 'Alawite regime, he lost his vision. Al-Asad is only concerned about the continuation of his regime, even at the cost of thousands of detainees, scores of martyrs, and demonstrations which have become a way of life in the main Syrian cities despite the suppression and the Syrian president's iron fist in ruling the fraternal Syrian people.

The paper says: Al-Asad does not want to admit that the people can no longer tolerate the injustices of his regime, the presence of their army in Lebanon, and the occupation of their territory without any word or sign other than the remark that the 'Alawite leadership intends to liberate this territory.

The paper adds: Al-Asad forgets all these facts or tries to close his eyes to them. He cannot see anything but Egypt--Egypt is the cause of what is happening in Syria; Egypt is the cause of the differences between Tunisia and Libya, Iraq and Iran, Algeria and Morocco, South Yemen and North Yemen, and Iraq and Syria; and Egypt is the one that leads the popular demonstrations in Aleppo streets, demanding the removal of the 'Alawite regime.

Concluding its article, AL-AHRAM says: All that Egypt has done was to liberate its territory, make the world understand the reality and essence of the Arab-Israeli conflict, and talk logically to the world without outbiddings and slogans which the mind does not accept. All that Egypt has done was to put its feet on the positive path, leaving the others to move in the vicious circle. The people want to learn the facts and cannot be fooled forever, but the regimes do not know, and if they knew, they would not admit it.

HUMAN RIGHTS SOCIETY ACCUSES SYRIA OF JOURNALIST'S MURDER

NC101610 Cairo MENA in English 1525 GMT 11 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Cairo, March 11, (MENA)--The Egyptian Human Rights Society condemned today the fierce crime masterminded by the Ba'thist Syrian intelligence services that murdered Salim al-Lawzi, one of the leading journalists in the Arab world.

In its statement issued here today, the society described the murderers as enemies of freedom and humanity, saying that their crime poses a threat to human values and an intimidation to the free journalists. The statement called upon all those who were touched by the brutal crime, foremost among whom are press lawyers, jurists syndicates, to express their indignation and to call upon the Lebanese authorities to intensify their efforts to chase and arrest the murderers and to have their fair and deterrent punishment.

SOMALI MINERAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER ARRIVES 12 Mar

JN121442 Amman JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Amman, 12 March--Somali Minister of Mineral and Water Development Dr Hussein 'Abd al-Qadir arrived in Amman today leading a delegation on a visit to Jordan, during which he will hold talks with Jordanian officials on ways of bolstering bilateral cooperation.

During his visit, which will last a few days, the Somali minister will sign an agreement with the Arab Mining Company in support of some mining objects in Somalia.

MINISTER DISCUSSES AUTONOMY TALKS, OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

LD121613 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 11 Mar 80 p 3 LD

[Report on interview by Jordanian Minister of State for Occupied Territories Affairs Hasan Ibrahim given to Wafa'i Diyab in Amman--Date not given]

[Excerpt] Jordanian Minister of State for Occupied Territories Affairs Hasan Ibrahim has called on all the Arab countries to reject and to fight against the autonomy talks "because they aim at consecrating Israeli occupation and giving it legitimacy."

Ibrahim was talking to ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in an interview in which he reiterated his country's refusal to join these negotiations. He also called on the Arab countries to shoulder their responsibilities.

Ibrahim said: We have rejected and continue to reject the Camp David Accords and the autonomy talks stemming from them because we believe that these accords do not achieve a comprehensive settlement and a just peace, for which we have worked and are still working. The peace that we want is based on total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories and restoration of the Palestinian people's national rights and their right to self-determination in full freedom.

The Jordanian minister added: The autonomy negotiations are also rejected because they consecrate Israeli occupation and give it legitimacy, and because the context of autonomy is applied to the inhabitants and does not include the land.

Minister Ibrahim called on all the Arab countries to stand united and to reject the negotiations before Israel can impose what it is seeking to achieve. He said: Israel is seeking to achieve autonomy with the help of a plan aimed at undermining Arab solidarity and in placing the occupied territories' inhabitants in a helpless position in which they will have no other choice than this solution.

He added: Israel's aim is to further deepen Arab division, strike at Arab cohesiveness, consolidate its direct or indirect presence in southern Lebanon and, consequently, strike at the Palestinian resistance there. What is needed is to stand firm and resolutely in the face of this plan.

Referring to the evident European change of attitude and understanding of the Middle East problem and the Palestinian problem in particular, he said: There is no doubt that the European countries have shown considerable understanding of this problem, but there are several considerations which these countries cannot ignore, most important of which is the U.S. attitude and the Zionist influence on it. However, I do not think that they will eventually adopt the attitude that we want, particularly with respect to the Palestinian problem.

Minister Ibrahim added: What we can do for our part in this case is to bring about total Arab agreement on a unified stand, and then ask the European countries to support and adopt that stand, by which we can fight against the U.S. initiative or any other initiative. Such action, in my view, is likely to succeed more than any other plan.

The Jordanian minister of state then spoke about meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Palestinian Committee for Supporting Steadfastness in Occupied Territories, which recently met under his chairmanship on the Jordanian side and Hamid Abu Sittah's on the Palestinian side. He said: At its meetings the committee studied the basis on which it will lay down its action program for 1980. It was agreed to lay down a development plan for the various economic and services sectors and to concentrate on production and supply projects. Discussion also dealt with means of insuring the implementation of these projects through the municipal and villages councils and cooperatives. The committee laid down the broad lines of the program and will finalize it at the next meeting, which is to be held at the end of march.

AMMAN AR-RA'Y: ARAB LEADERS AGREE TO MEET CARTER IN U.S.

JN121045 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 12 Mar 80 p 1 JN

[Text] Washington-Exclusive--It has been learned from well informed sources that U.S. President Jimmy Carter has received the agreement of several Arab leaders to visit the United States and to meet with him during the second half of April. The sources added that the Arab leaders will hold intensive talks with the U.S. president on the serious and exacerbated situation in the Middle East, particularly following the deterioration of the self-rule talks among Egypt, Israel and the United States.

DANI SHAM'UN DISCUSSES ATTEMPT TO ASSASSINATE FATHER

NC121315 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1215 GMT 12 Mar 80 NC

[Text] While investigations are underway to unravel the mystery of the criminal attempt on former President Sham'un, his son Dani Sham'un, a defense official in the National Liberal Party, has said that the primary aim of the attack was to sabotage reconciliation in Lebanon. He said it was linked to a series of incidents that have taken place in the western party of Beirut such as the firing upon the unoccupied cars of Walid Junblatt and Muhsin Ibrahim. The incident is also linked with the attempt to bomb the car of Abu 'Ammar. This indicates that everyone advocating national reconciliation might face similar attempts. In reply to a question, Dani Sham'un said: We have much information about the bombed car on the side of the road. This information will quickly reveal the identities of the culprits after the initial investigations.

PRIME MINISTER REVIEWS ATTACK ON DEPUTY'S HOME

NC131022 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 13 Mar 80 NC

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss this morning followed up the developments in the security situation, particularly yesterday's clashes in Al-Awza'i during which the home of Deputy Husayn al-Husayni was attacked. Prime Minister al-Huss met with the director general of the internal security forces, Staff Maj Gen Ahmad al-Haj, who acquainted the prime minister with the security situation in general. Prime Minister al-Huss asked that immediate measures be adopted to prevent a recurrence of clashes. Prime Minister al-Huss contacted Deputy al-Husayni by telephone, denouncing the attack on his home and congratulating him on his safety.

VOL: ARMENIANS THREATEN TURKISH ESTABLISHMENTS

NC120742 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 12 Mar 80 NC

[Text] An unknown person has informed news agencies and the press in Beirut that Turkish establishments will be subjected to retaliatory actions and will be at the mercy of the Armenian revolutionaries. He urged the people to stay away from these establishments so as not to be hurt.

ADF ISSUES STATEMENT ON 12 MARCH CLASHES

NC130650 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 13 Mar 80 NC

[13 March statement by the Arab Deterrent Forces command]

[Text] At 2200 on 12 March an armed clash broke out for personal reasons between two local Lebanese organizations in the Khaldah-'Aramun area. Some armed elements of 'Arab al-Maslakh intervened in the clash. Likewise, armed elements belonging to a Palestinian organization joined one of the two Lebanese organizations in the clash. RPG's were used in the clash. The Arab Deterrent Forces, in coordination with the Palestinian resistance immediately intervened with mechanized patrols. The latter cordoned off the area and contained the firing. A military committee is investigating the incident to determine which side was responsible and to prevent recurrence. Four persons were killed and several others wounded. The liaison officer, Capt Ahmad at'Timsah, who accompanied the deterrent forces patrol, and a member of the patrol were slightly wounded.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD RECEIVES PFLP LEADER 12 MAR

JN121814 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1745 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Damascus, 12 March--At 1530 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash, who was accompanied by front Political Bureau member Abu at-Tayyib 'Abd ar-Rahman and by Sabir Muhyi ad-Din, the front's representative in Damascus. Talks at the meeting dealt with the latest developments in the Arab arena, developments in the Palestinian question and ways of increasing support for Arab steadfastness and for the Palestinian revolution in facing the hostile plots.

Habash Voices Support

JN122014 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Excerpts] At 1530 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash. During the meeting, Dr George Habash reaffirmed that the conspiracies against Syria are considered to be conspiracies against the Palestinian revolution and that the imperialist forces conspiring against Syria are the same that conspire against th the Palestinian revolution.

Habash said that all who conspire against Syria which is steadfast in facing the hostile and wicked onslaught, are also striking at the Palestinian revolution. Therefore, all progressive and revolutionary forces should immediately take the initiative, to eliminate this reactionary onslaught, which is led by the United States. Dr George Habash also reaffirmed that the Palestinian revolution strongly supports and stands side by side with Syria in the battle against the common enemy.

KHADDAM RECEIVES PORTUGUESE REVOLUTION COUNCIL MEMBER

JN121320 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Text] Damascus--Comrade 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party national and regional commands, and Syrian deputy prime minister, and foreign minister, this morning received Gen Franco Charais, member of Portugals Council of the Revolution, who is currently visiting the state at the invitation of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command. During the meeting, discussion centered on the current situation in the Middle East and issues relating to the Palestinian cause. Bilateral relations and ways of bolstering these relations in all the political, social and economic fields were also discussed.

Gen Franco Charais praised Syria's steadfast stand and its just struggle, which it is waging against racist Zionism so as to liberate the occupied Arab territories and regain the Palestinian people's legitimate rights--including their right to establish an independent state in their homeland.

GFVS CONFERENCE ISSUES STATEMENT, ADOPTS RESOLUTIONS

JN120930 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 12 Mar 80 JN

[Excerpts] The special conference of the Syrian General Federation of Vocational Societies [GFVS] issued the following statement at the conclusion of its work yesterday:

The statement says: Struggling masses: Our struggling masses and the struggling sons of the Arab nation from the ocean to the Gulf have celebrated the 17th anniversary of the glorious 8 March revolution which was brought about by the people during their long and bitter struggle under the vanguard party, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. Since its inception in the 1940's, the Ba'th Party has shouldered the responsibility of supporting the toiling masses' objectives and the struggle for their achievement.

The statement stressed that the masses, which have chosen the revolution, are well aware that the choice has a price and that the road before them is not strewn with roses. The masses are also fully aware that the revolutionary, patriotic and progressive forces have enemies who are hostile to the revolutionary operation and the process of achieving transformations in the economic, social and political structures that will lead to a unified socialist Arab society where justice and equality will be guaranteed and a dignified living for all the sons of our people will be secured.

The statement added that those who are watching events in the Arab homeland will easily realize that the spiteful and destructive elements are connected to the forces that are hostile to our people and the Arab nation which are carrying out successive attempts to liquidate Arab Syria and tear apart our national unity, thus destroying Syria's steadfastness.

Brothers, the masses who are members of the vocational societies are asked to shoulder their historic responsibilities. These masses produce many of the commodities used and offer many of the services needed by the citizens, thus making them capable--in conjunction with the other sectors of our people such as the workers, peasants and revolutionary intellectuals--of carrying out an important and great role in confronting attempts at sabotage and rumors which are aimed at creating confusion and destruction.

The GFVS statement supported the resolutions and recommendations adopted by the General Federation of Peasant Unions and the General Federation of Trade Unions and, adopted in its turn, a number of resolutions.

Among the most important resolutions adopted are the following:

1) Establishment of a special central fund for the federation.

2) Formation of armed groups of vocational elements to defend the revolution.

The statement also calls on the vocational sector to counter all attempts that aim at sowing confusion and spreading rumors among the sons of the people, and to decisively reply to the methods adopted by those who play havoc with the country's and citizens' security, by becoming more committed to the party's and revolution's objectives of independence, socialism and unity. The vocational societies praised the march of our people under President-struggler Hafiz al-Asad and pledged to his excellency that they will continue their struggle to liquidate the spiteful elements, traitors and those who are conspiring against our toiling masses.

KUWAITI DAILY INTERVIEWS FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM

ID111615 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 9 Mar 80 p 25 ID

[Interview granted by Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam to Ilyas Masuh in Damascus--date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Some people wonder, especially after the decision to redeploy the Syrian forces [in Lebanon], what it is you want from Lebanon? We put this question to you so as to hear your answer and explanation.

Answer: We cannot ignore the current developments in the area which require that we be cautious and prepared to face any eventualities that might lead to a weaking of our ability to tackle the present situation in the area resulting from the Camp David policy. We are all following the Israeli statements and Israeli military preparations, including the bolstering of their forces in the Golan. We have been in Beirut for about 4 years, during which time there have been no serious moves whatsoever to break out of this stagnant situation and to make headway toward rebuilding the Lebanese state so that national unity may be strengthened and Lebanon may be able to shoulder both its Lebanese and Arab responsibilities. It is inconceivable that, in the light of this situation in the area and one of the slackness of the Lebanese quarters, that the Syrian soldier should continue to play the role of policeman on the streets of Beirut. Therefore, it was necessary to take the decision to redeploy the Syrian forces. This is the background to the Syrian decision. We have agreed to postpone its implementation for some time so as to enable the Lebanese parties to work out arrangements on which they might agree. In any case, the decision must be implemented within a short time.

As for what Syria wants from Lebanon, this question, which is being asked by the Lebanese circles, is astonishing and makes one wonder. We have been asked it scores of times by the Lebanese and our answer has always been this: We want a healthy and united Lebanon which is capable of shouldering its responsibilities like the rest of the Arab countries.

Question: But why was this decision taken suddenly as the Lebanese official and popular reaction has shown?

Answer: First, nobody should interfere in the technical operations of the Syrian forces. These forces are not linked to the Arab League but to the Lebanese president. Therefore, when we take such a decision we are not required to inform this or that party or this or that Arab institution. It must be pointed out that we notified the Lebanese authorities of the decision and of the considerations that dictated it. It is useful to recall that when we entered Lebanon and shouldered our national responsibility there, our entry was in accordance with a Syrian decision based on national consideration and on the request of all the Lebanese parties, including the Lebanese state itself.

Our movement in this or that direction is dictated by the same considerations. In any case, we hope that our Lebanese brothers will expedite the attainment of national reconciliation because this would lessen our burden there.

Question: It has been said that Palestinian units have replaced the withdrawing Syrian units at certain positions.

Answer: Nothing has changed on the ground with regard to the deployment of forces.

Question: People wonder about Arab solidarity in the present Arab situation which is quite contrary to such solidarity.

Answer: In my view there is nothing better for the Arabs than solidarity in the fact of this U.S.-Zionist onslaught on the Arab nation aimed at consolidating U.S. hegemony and Israeli domination. What is going on now between As-Sadat and the Israelis, and which for many months people could not believe, must reveal to us the whole truth. This state of affairs reveals the Israeli objectives of infiltrating the Arab world and dominating it. It also reveals the U.S. goals of strengthening hegemony in the Arab area and over its resources and wealth. This state of affairs was expressed in a statement by an Egyptian official--that certain actions are underway to establish regional military cooperation between Egypt and Israel. This statement was calmly received by Arab officials. What does this statement mean? It clearly means the end of the role of friends of the United States in the area who want to work for the sake of Palestine and the Arabs and to move toward a new step; namely, to directly seek the help of the new setup which has come about as a result of the Egyptian-Israeli regional cooperation. All this has prompted me to come to the conclusion that the Arabs are now facing a new stage. They must choose between one of two things: either resist the new setup in the area which the United States is sponsoring and whose axis is Egypt and Israel, or adopt a national stand that would protect their existence, defend their interests and safeguard their aspirations.

Question: Your absence from the Islamabad conference on Afghanistan is still raising questions. What were the real reasons [for not attending]?

Answer: In fact it was for the sake of Palestine, of all the occupied Arab territories, and of Jerusalem in particular, that we did not attend the Islamabad conference. The reasons are as follows:

First, the Zionist entity is the number one enemy of the Arabs and, consequently, the Arabs must direct most of their attention to the main field of conflict, no voice should rise above the voice against occupation. Every action must be dedicated to the main field of conflict.

Following events in Afghanistan, the United States, As-Sadat, Israel and the Western media created a major uproar which, we must admit, succeeded in distracting Arab attention from the main battlefield and in providing a cover for what is going on between Egypt and Israel. At the same time as the Americans were shedding tears over Muslims in Afghanistan, they were working to liquidate the Palestinian problem as well as Islam and Muslims in Palestine and elsewhere.

Second, the battle is between the Soviet Union and the United States. We as nonalined states must not be tools in this conflict between the major powers and must not be used by this or that state. Therefore, we realized that our participation in the Islamabad conference would be a great service to the United States which itself is giving economic and military aid to Israel and which is declaring that Israeli security is a component of U.S. security. For this reason, why should we be tools in this conflict and meet in order to adopt resolutions against the Soviet Union, which is a friendly state standing on our side politically and militarily, at a time when the NATO alliance met and failed to come to an agreement [on Afghanistan] and the European countries were unable to reach a decision on the matter? Why do NATO and European states act on the basis of their national interests, while we should act on the basis of U.S. interests?

Third, some people claim that they rushed to Islamabad for the sake of Islam. Here we must ask: Can the Americans or the British be on the side of Islam? We must recall Carter's and Brzezinski's statements on using Islam in their conflict with the Soviet Union and in order to impose the Camp David peace in the Middle East. Did it not occur to these people to ask Carter about his attitude toward Jerusalem which he expressed to the Congress, saying that Jerusalem should remain unified? Did it not occur to any of them to ask Carter about the Muslims in Palestine, in Jerusalem, in Lebanon and in the Golan? We do not believe that the matter concerns Islam, for if it actually did, we would have fought on the side of Islam and of the Islamic values in which we believe.

If the matter concerned Islam, we would have adopted a different stand. We would like to ask: Do they want us to believe that the Americans and the British are with Islam?

The mere fact that they adopt this stand makes us adopt an opposing stand. A final question: Was Hafizollah Amin's rule an Islamic rule? Why were no voices raised in defense of Islam when Taraki's revolution was staged? Afghanistan was a Marxist state ever since Taraki's revolution and; therefore, it was not an Islamic state whose regime has been changed.

Fourth, there is yet another reason. We believe that there is an attempt to harm Islam and the Muslims. Why when the United States threatened Iran, mobilized its fleets and froze Iranian assets, did some people not see this as a threat to Islam? In fact, not a single statement was made denouncing these U.S. measures against Iran. Is Iran an Islamic state or not? Moreover, China, which is a communist state, is adopting the same stand [as published]. Does Soviet communism constitute a danger to Islam while Chinese communism does not?

Fifth, one of the aims of the U.S. campaign in the Middle East is to implement the Camp David policy. If the Arabs oppose the Soviet Union and Syria adopts a hostile stand toward it, what would the consequence be when the doors of vast U.S. military aid to Israel are wide open and new weapons, including F-15 and F-16 planes, are being rushed to it? The consequence would simply mean the ending of Soviet aid for Syria. Syria now--whether some people like it or not--is the principal base of steadfastness in the Arab-Israeli conflict. If this base is weakened and Soviet military aid and supplies to it are stopped, what choice is Syria left with other than surrender? Does this choice serve Islam?

Those who believe that they can use Islam in order to serve imperialist interests or certain selfish interests they are grossly mistaken. These people must bear in mind that Islam has come as a revolution against injustice, coercion and aggression. If the early Muslims were to rise from the dead and hear the statements of U.S., British and other officials, they would be shocked and pained.

ALGERIA

STATEMENT ISSUED AT END OF IRAQI DELEGATION'S VISIT

LD130046 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpts] President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the party, received this morning in his office Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council and first deputy prime minister, who handed the president a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. The meeting was attended by Bualem Benhamouda, member of the Political Bureau and interior minister, and brother Mohamed Hadj Yala, minister of finance. For the Iraqi side the meeting was attended by Hikmat Ibrahim, member of the Revolution Command Council [RCC] and head of the economic affairs office.

Taha Yasin Ramadan left Algeria today. He was seen off by ministers of the interior, finance, and posts and telecommunications, the secretary general of the Foreign Ministry and the Iraqi ambassador to Algeria.

Following the visit, a press statement was issued, the text of which reads as follows:

Within the framework of the fraternal relations existing between the two sister countries and within the context of the regular consultations between the political leaderships in the two countries, an Iraqi delegation led by Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy prime minister, paid a working, friendly visit to Algeria 11-12 March at the invitation of brother Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, member of the Political Bureau and prime minister.

During his stay, the leader of the Iraqi delegation was received by President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the party, and extended to him the greetings and best wishes of President Saddam Husayn. President Chadli Bendjedid also sent his regards and good wishes to President Saddam Husayn.

The delegation held friendly talks in a fraternal atmosphere with brother Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, member of the Political Bureau and prime minister. The following took part on the Iraqi side: Hikmat Ibrahim, member of the RCC and head of the economic affairs office; Thamir Ruzuqi, finance minister; Dr 'Abd al-Amir 'Ali 'Umran, chairman of the board of the Iraqi fund for external economic development. The following took part on the Algerian side: brothers Bualem Benhamuda, member of the Political Bureau and interior minister; Mohamed Hadj Yala, member of the Central Committee and finance minister.

The talks dealt with economic, cultural and trade relations and cooperation in all fields and the means of its development and diversification in the interests of the two fraternal peoples and the noble aims of the Arab nation.

At the Arab level the talks dealt with the Middle East problem and the dangers threatening the Arab nation resulting from the two Camp David agreements and the normalization of relations between the Zionist enemy and the Egyptian regime, and the challenges this imposes before the supreme goals of our Arab nation and its fateful cause, Palestine. The views of both sides were identical.

Both sides agreed that the Arab nation currently requires the recruitment of all its capabilities in the service of the battle for this fateful cause. It should be vigilant and mobilized so as to abort all the plots of the Zionist enemy, imperialism and to protect the gains (?of its struggle).

ELF, PARTY LEADERS HOLD 'POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS'

LD121259 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 7-8 Mar 80 p 3 LD

[Unattributed report: "Visit by Eritrean Liberation Front (Revolutionary Council) Delegation to Algeria"]

[Text] An Eritrean revolution delegation led by Eritrean Liberation Front (Revolutionary Council) President Ahmed Nasser visited our country last week. They had important talks with Algerian party officials, in particular with the national secretaries of mass organizations and officials of the International Relations Commission [CRI] presided over by Mr Sliman Hoffman. CRI Vice President Chraieb Lazhari and Liberation Movements Subcommission President Kitouni Saddeq were present at these political consultations.

ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR TO PERU WILL ALSO SERVE BOLIVIA

LD121245 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 7-8 Mar 80 p 3 LD

[APS report: "Approval of New Ambassadors to Algeria"]

[Excerpt] The Foreign Ministry has announced that the government of the Republic of Bolivia has just approved the appointment of Mr Tayeb Boulahrouf as ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria to Bolivia, with his residence in Lima.

LIBYA

ZHIVKOV MEETS BULGARIAN COMMUNITY, CONTINUES VISIT

LD130958 Tripoli JANA in English 0813 GMT 13 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, March 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Bulgarian head of state Todor Zhivkov, who is currently visiting the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, met yesterday the Bulgarian community in the Jamahiriyah. The meeting was attended by Bashir Judah, secretary of the General People's Committee of Agriculture.

Friendship Society

LD131000 Tripoli JANA in English 0815 GMT 13 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, March 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--In his meeting with the Libyan-Bulgarian Friendship Society, President Zhivkov of Bulgaria, who is currently visiting the Jamahiriyah, affirmed that all his meetings with the leader of the grand al-Fatah revolution were dominated by a friendly atmosphere. He expressed his satisfaction for the warm reception they were given by the Libyan Arab people explaining that his visit will promote cooperation between the two countries.

Visits Tripoli Fair

LD121804 Tripoli JANA in English 1707 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, March 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Mr Todor Zhivkov, first secretary of the communist party and president of the People's Republic of Bulgaria this morning visited Tripoli international fair where he was shown round the national pavilion where the secretary of the General People's Committee for Economy briefed him on the industrial projects, plans and development programme and the huge achievements realized in the Jamahiriyah in the industrial sector.

The Bulgarian president also visited the pavilion of the secretariat of land reclamation and agrarian reform and listened to explanations by its secretary on major achievements of agricultural integrated projects and how the dams are exploited in the Jamahiriyah, as well as the quantities of improved qualities of crops seeds in the last ten years.

The secretary told the guest president that the Jamahiriyah is considered a leading country in reclaiming the desert and exploiting it in agriculture as well as developing agriculture and introducing modern technology. The Bulgarian president also visited the Bulgarian pavilion at Tripoli international fair.

FOREIGN SECRETARY AT-TURAYKI MEETS BULGARIAN COUNTERPART

LD121806 Tripoli JANA in English 1653 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, March 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Foreign Secretary Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki met this afternoon with Mr Petur Mladenov, the member of the Politbureau of the Bulgarian Communist Party and minister of foreign affairs who is accompanying President Todor Zhivkov, the first secretary of the communist party and president of the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

The meeting was held in the presence of the undersecretary and the head of the European department at the Foreign Secretariat, the Jamahiriyah's ambassador to Bulgaria, and his opposite number in the Jamahiriyah. It dealt with aspects of bilateral cooperation and means of furthering them.

LIBYAN-BULGARIAN AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE MEETS IN TRIPOLI

LD121808 Tripoli JANA in English 1655 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Tripoli, March 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--The Libyan Arab-Bulgarian Joint Agricultural Committee started its meetings this morning at the guest palace in Tripoli to discuss bilateral cooperation. Among those present were Mr Bashir Judah, secretary of the General People's Committee for Land Reclamation and Agrarian Reform and Mr Lukanov, candidate to the Politbureau of the Bulgarian Communist Party and deputy prime minister.

DAVAR: LAND EXPROPRIATED IN JERUSALEM INVOLVES ARAB, JEWISH OWNERS

TA121423 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 12 Mar 80 p 1 TA

[By Yosef Peri'el]

[Text] The government expropriated 4,400 dunams in northern Jerusalem yesterday. The order was signed by Finance Minister Yig'al Hurvitz. The objective of the expropriation is to create continuity between the Neve Ya'aqov quarter and the French Hill quarter, both in the northern part of the capital, on the way to Ramallah. All the expropriated land is within the limits of Jerusalem on territory annexed to the state of Israel after the Six-Day War.

Treasury officials estimate the expropriation will cost the government more than half a billion pounds in compensation to several hundred landowners in the area, and it is not clear from which part of the state budget that sum will be taken.

Sixty-eight percent of the expropriated land belong to Arabs, 30 percent to Jews, and 2 percent is state land. Most of the area has no buildings and is rocky. After the expropriation order is published in the government gazette, the chief government assessor will send the landowners statements on the amount of compensation, to enable them to appeal to the court should they wish to do so.

The expropriation was made in accordance with Housing Ministry construction plans and on the recommendations of the treasury's advisory council on land expropriation. The expropriation was implemented after the Cabinet authorized Ministers Levi and Hurvitz to do so at last Sunday's Cabinet session. Plans to expropriate land in that area have been in the works at the Housing Ministry since the beginning of the seventies.

Levi on Expropriation, Autonomy

TA122050 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1930 GMT 12 Mar 80 TA

[Interview with Housing and Construction Minister David Levi by Tuviya Sa'ar, Elimelekh Ram and Eli'ezer Ya'ari in the framework of the weekly "Moqed" program--live, in the studio]

[Excerpt] [Sa'ar] Sir, with your permission, we will shift to political questions. Reacting to the U.S. vote in the Security Council you proposed that the Cabinet hold off the autonomy talks. Does that mean that you are going back....

[Levi] No, I did not propose that.

[Sa'ar] Are you denying that? If I may quote you, Mr Levi; if I am not mistaken, you said that the autonomy talks are a trap that will lead to the establishment of a Palestinian state. Did you say that? I simply want to be sure.

[Levi] I say that they are becoming a trap.

[Ram] Did you suggest that Israel break off the talks, in the wake of the U.S. vote in the Security Council?

[Levi] No, let me quote myself. I said that following the U.S. vote in the Security Council, in utter contradiction to what was agreed upon at Camp David, it stopped being an objective partner, and it has confronted us to a greater degree than the Egyptians demanded. Therefore, this has become a trap. If we deviate from the agreements reached at Camp David, the talks become a trap for us.

[Ram] Does that mean that you are also going back on your support for the Camp David accords?

[Levi] No. I assert that the United States, through its behaviour, has gone back on its promises at Camp David.

[Ram] Minister, sir, at the same meeting the defense minister also said that not every settlement is a security necessity. Do you subscribe to that position?

[Levi] I have never said that every settlement is a security necessity. I belong to the camp that favors Eretz Yisra'el, Judaea and Samaria and our right to settle in every part of the country. Our right to Eretz Yisra'el fits in with security and with those settlements that are a security necessity.

[Ram] Is the settlement of the two houses in Hebron a security need?

[Levi] No. I am not referring to the settlement of two houses. I think that the picture has been distorted in this case. Nobody--at least not me--thinks that one takes two families, puts them in Hebron and they have to be safeguarded. That is not the intention. Our presence in Hebron fits in with the Cabinet's decision that every Jew has the right to live in any part of Eretz Yisra'el, including Hebron. I will submit my specific proposals on this issue to the Cabinet on Sunday.

[Ya'ari] Mr Housing Minister, as you heard, this evening the United States denounced the decision to expropriate land south of the Neve Ya'aqov neighborhood in Jerusalem. Last night on television, Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek said that this decision would cause severe public relations damage--and here is the proof. What is your opinion?

[Levi] First, the U.S. denunciation: Well, if we were to act according to the sympathies emanating from the United States then we would have to return to the 1967 borders. The United States has actually given a hand to something that means the establishment of a Palestinian state--it does not say it explicitly--and our duty is to foil this [for the sake of] our security. I think that on this issue, not only the Israeli Government, but the Israeli people will foil it.

Regarding Neve Ya'aqov: We are speaking of [an area within]--Jerusalem's jurisdiction to which Israeli law applies. We are talking about almost the only reserves of land that we have left for public needs, for construction for young couples, immigrants and families. I am amazed at the utterances made by Mr Teddy Kollek. I think that they caused unmeasurable damage to the State of Israel. I do not want to get into an argument with him. His statements of last night will be remembered--I am certain of it--and not in his favor.

[Ya'ari] Are you not concerned about the ever increasing severe isolation of Israel in the international arena?

[Levi] We are experiencing a certain wave, a wave in which the Arab world is restricted by interests of oil, petrodollars and markets. We must be careful, first, not to get into a panic; second, to know that this is a struggle for our existence; and third, not to become the scapegoat. There is only one way to be popular and nice: if we were to do what they want. I think that we should not take that path. The government will stand firm--as it has already done in the past--to foil first, the distortion and collapse of the agreements reached at Camp David and second, and most important point, to prevent the establishment of a Palestinian state, which would threaten our existence.

[Sa'ar] Besides all the political and public relations problems we have overseas, all the things you support and advocate also carry a price. Yesterday, Teddy Kollek explained that, among other things, the road that will cross the area will cost 400 million pounds. You know better than I the amount that was cut from the Housing Ministry's budget. The question is, what is the order of priorities: Hebron, or Jerusalem?

[Levi] First of all, there is a distinction between Jerusalem and Hebron. [This will become clear] when I submit proposals to the Cabinet regarding what has and must be done in Jerusalem. The reference is to an area, as I have already said, that is perhaps the only such large area that will assure us of continued construction in the next few years. Of course, planning must start now.

Regarding the 400 million Israeli pounds: I said that I would not address this topic. However, on this issue, I must remind Mr Kollek that we have invested about 7 billion Israeli pounds in construction in Jerusalem this year. So, please make the comparison between the 400 million and the 7 billion. It would be advisable that Mr Kollek tour the new neighborhoods and see with his own eyes what we are building in Jerusalem.

HATZOFE on Kollek's Remarks

TA130954 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 13 Mar 80 TA

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] HATZOFE says that the Jerusalem mayor's behavior with respect to the issue of the land expropriation in the northeast part of the city causes considerable wonder. By saying that the expropriation would precipitate political pressures, he was actually soliciting pressures from outside factors. One might expect that this man, who holds the office of Jerusalem mayor, show more responsibility in matters pertaining to this sensitive issue. Teddy Kollek's remarks, regrettably, are a disservice to Jerusalem.

SHARON CRITICIZES U.S. JEWS APATHY ON CARTER'S UN VOTE

TA130642 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 13 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon strongly attacked the Carter administration for the vote in the Security Council and criticized U.S. Jewry for not having expressed opposition in an appropriate manner. Speaking at the Conference of Presidents [of major Jewish organizations] in New York, Sharon said that the silence of Jews had been one of the causes of the Holocaust. He said he was shocked that there had not been a protest march of 100,000 Jews in Washington following the vote at the United Nations. Sharon also strongly criticized Jewish leaders for having met, at the beginning of the week, with two of Carter's senior advisers.

The Conference of Presidents members reacted with dismay to Sharon's speech.

NO AGREEMENT ON LEVEL OF TALKS FOR AUTONOMY TALKS TEAMS

TA121512 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 12 Mar 80 TA

[Text] The chairman of the Israeli autonomy team, Dr Yosef Burg, and the Egyptian prime minister did not reach an agreement today on the way the talks of the legal working teams should be conducted. Israel wants the talks to be held at the ministerial level, while Egypt suggests that officials represent the parties.

Minister Burg and Dr Khalil talked this issue over on the telephone at noon and decided to hold another talk. Our political correspondent says it was agreed that the working groups will meet by the end of the month, before the ministerial autonomy teams meet in Al-Jizah near Cairo.

Normalization Committee Holds Meeting

NC121707 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1627 GMT 12 Mar 80 NC

[Excerpt] Cairo, 12 March--The Egyptian-Israeli normalization committee held a meeting at the Foreign Ministry today. Ambassador Taha al-Majoub and Abraham Tamir cochaired the meeting for the Egyptian and Israeli sides respectively. The meeting was held to discuss the normalization subcommittees' reports on culture, tourism, aviation, transportation and communications.

The committee decided to form a subcommittee to discuss the movement of Palestinians between Gaza and Cairo; the subcommittee met soon after its formation to draw up a report on the subject.

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER YADIN DEPARTS FOR LONDON, MEETS THATCHER

TA111759 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 11 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Yiga'el Yadin will hold discussions in London tomorrow with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Our correspondent Mikha'el Almaz reports that Professor Yadin will be interviewed by British media, lecture at the annual dinner of the Anglo-Israeli Friendship Association and will meet with leaders of the United Jewish Appeal. The deputy prime minister will also brief London correspondents on recent developments in the Middle East.

Expresses Concern Over Interference

TA122010 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 12 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Yiga'el Yadin conferred with Britain's prime minister in her residence on Downing Street in London. Yadin told Margaret Thatcher that Israel will view with gravity any outside interference with the autonomy negotiations.

MA'ARIV CRITICIZES EUROPEAN MIDDLE EAST INITIATIVE

TA121103 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 12 Mar 80 p 5 TA

[Editorial: "The European Initiative"]

[Text] The European commonwealth nations deigned to grant a period of "grace" to Israel: after a general roll call and their falling in line with the renewed French initiative to grant "self-determination" to the Palestinians. They consented to the proposal that, presumably, originated in the United States, to allow Israel to conduct the autonomy negotiations until 26 May without intervention on the part of the European commonwealth.

This "industrial peace," which was achieved by Washington until 26 May is unlikely to benefit the talks, which are complicated as they stand. On the contrary; as of now they will not be conducted in a substantive and cautious atmosphere made necessary by the complex issues disputed, but in a compulsive hurry under the threat of the "French guillotine." This is the European commonwealth's contribution to the calm it seeks in this vital region of the world.

One should not be surprised about France. Oil, the markets for its weapon industry and its nuclear reactors, the ambition to again become a decisive factor in the region beside the two superpowers--all these guide France's policy.

However, it is a fallacy to assume, as the eight other commonwealth members do, that "self-determination" is the miracle key to the problems of this area of conflict.

It is of interest that in quiet talks, the French and British endeavor to assure Israel it should not fear that the concept of "self-determination" implies a Palestinian state. But if "self-determination" is not an independent Palestinian state, why were France and all its followers in such a hurry to prod Israel in particular? The talks about the autonomy with a self-rule have, after all, not yet ended. And it could barely be a mere coincidence that after the words of praise and thanks to the French president for his role he fulfilled in the European initiative, 'Arafat proclaims that no word or even letter would be changed in the Palestinian Charter, which explicitly calls for the establishment of a Palestinian state instead of Israel.

If there is any value in President Carter's apology after the "communication foul-up" incident in the Security Council, to the effect that the United States does not favor a Palestinian state, then the United States, which is a party to the Camp David accords, is committed--no less than Israel--to halt the disguised French-European initiative.

In order to demonstrate publicly that the United States indeed rejects the real French interpretation of the concept "self-determination" to the Palestinians, there is no need to wait until the 26th of May.

YITZHAQ BERMAN NEW KNESSET SPEAKER

TA121117 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 12 Mar 80 TA

[Text] Liberal Party member Yitzaq Berman is the new Knesset speaker, replacing Yitzaq Shamir who was appointed Foreign Minister. Sixty-nine Knesset members from the coalition, Shay, SHELLI, Independent Liberals, Citizens Rights Movement and Mordekhay Algrabli voted in favor of his appointment; 35 Knesset members from the Alinement, Hadash and Hetehiya abstained. Moshe Dayan did not vote.

Taking the Knesset speaker's gavel, Yitzhaq Berman said he will continue to strive toward improving the Knesset's image and stated his conviction that the Knesset members will cooperate with him. He urged the Knesset members to be aware of the fact that whatever happens in the Knesset building can be seen and heard in all the Israeli houses and provides an example to the entire nation. He noted that democracy can be destroyed even without a revolution involving use of force; it can be done by humiliation and presenting it as a useless utensil. The prestige and credibility of democracy, the new speaker said, depend to a very large degree on the behavior of the people's representatives and the level of debate in the Knesset.

NRP, LABOR SEEK EARLY ELECTIONS

TA121347 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 12 Mar 80 p 1 TA

[By A. Kinarti]

[Text] The possibility of advancing elections to the 10th Knesset received momentum recently in "quiet" contacts conducted on that matter between the NRP and the Labor Party. A meeting is expected today between a senior NRP personality and a senior Labor Party leader.

Support for early elections has been increasing recently and Finance Minister Yig'al Hurvitz said this to me last night: "I am in favor of early elections, things can no longer go on this way," The minister's associates added: "Yig'al's nerves are not made of steel and one has to cut the living flesh of the ninth Knesset."

NRP Knesset member Yehuda Ben-Me'ir told a DAVAR correspondent in the Knesset last night: "If within the next 2 or 3 weeks it transpires that the finance minister's policy lacks full backing by the Likud and the coalition, I will propose to hold early elections. Religion Minister Aharon Abu-Hatzera also supported Ben Me'ir's view and told me that he would favor earlier elections.

Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres refused to comment on today's expected meeting with the NRP, neither confirming nor denying it.

The DAVAR correspondent has been told that contacts on the possibility of advancing the elections have been going on for a week with the NRP, especially after Dr Burg mentioned such a possibility, a remark that was strengthened the next day by an expression uttered by Deputy Prime Minister Simha Ehrlich. Ben-Me'ir said yesterday he was not taking part in contacts with the aim of dismantling the coalition and replacing the Cabinet by another coalition. "However, the subject of early elections is another matter." He recalled that he had supported earlier elections in the past.

It has been reported, meanwhile, that apprehensions over the matter are increasing among the Likud partners, particularly in Herut. A senior associate of the prime minister told me last night: "There is indeed cause for concern, especially since Begin's authority in the Likud and the coalition has weakened." The same source also said that "everything depends on the NRP now. Only the NRP can decide the issue of whether the elections will indeed be advanced. He speculated that the prime minister might initiate an urgent meeting with NRP leaders on the subject, to dissaude them from soliciting earlier elections.

The Labor Party Executive explains that the contacts with the NRP are meant to examine ways for forming a new Cabinet, not to discuss an alternative coalition based on the existing Knesset, nor to discuss the composition of the next Cabinet, should the Alinement return to power, or the distribution of portfolios.

Burg, Peres Discuss Elections

TA121349 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 12 Mar 80 p 1 TA

[By Avraham Tirosh]

[Text] The possibility of bringing the elections forward was raised in a talk held in the Knesset yesterday between Interior Minister Dr Burg and Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres, in the wake of Dr Burg's statement a few days ago, expressing the need for early elections.

This morning Dr Burg confirmed that such a meeting had taken place, but said that the main subject of the talk had been the autonomy negotiations. He did not, however, deny that they had also talked about early elections, although he said that nothing had been agreed upon.

This morning Dr Burg reiterated that in his view the Cabinet ought to take steps to change its image; by doing so it might be able to overcome the political and economic problems which he believes are liable to lead to early elections.

Since Dr Burg's statement on the possibility of advancing the elections, various elements in the Labor Party have tried to establish contact with NRP circles to arrive at some sort of cooperation in this respect, but the Burg-Peres talk is the first at such a high level.

More Speculation on Early Elections

TA122013 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 Gmt 12 Mar 80 TA

[Text] There has been talk recently about impending elections. Prime Minister Menahem Begin expressed surprise today at press reports about a meeting between Minister Burg and Labor Party Chairman Peres intended to coordinate positions between the Alinement and the NRP in preparation for possible early Knesset elections. Minister Burg said such a possibility was discussed in his talk with Peres, but no agreements were made between the Alinement and the NRP. Following these meetings rumors were again rife in the Knesset about early elections if they are supported by the NRP faction. Our correspondent Yoram Ronen reports from the Knesset.

[Begin Ronen videotape] It is difficult today to see a Knesset majority that will lead to its dissolution and to early elections. Minister Burg met twice with the prime minister, telling him that in his talk with Peres yesterday they discussed autonomy issues and not an alliance between the Labor Party and the NRP after the elections. Burg refused to participate in the NRP faction meeting today. The faction wanted to hear explanations from him about the press reports on his meeting with Peres, but Burg said he will not do so until next week.

The head of the NRP Knesset faction, Yehuda Ben-Me'ir, said that if the Cabinet does not fully support the finance minister's efforts to revive the economy, if each minister pulls in a different direction, then there will have to be early elections. Ben-Me'ir said that in a few weeks it will be clear whether we are moving toward early elections.

It seems that the Labor Party and its chairman, Shim'on Peres, are interested in early elections now, before the struggles within the Labor Party begin. However, the very publication of the move toward a Labor Party-NRP alliance, if it was indeed planned, has foiled the possibility of early elections for the time being. There is strong opposition to early elections in the Likud. The prime minister said he would do everything he can to prevent early elections.

It is difficult to see today a Knesset majority of 61 members that can cause the Knesset dissolution and early elections, especially when many of the Knesset members know they will not be elected to the next Knesset. [end videotape].

NRP Denies Election Rumors

TA121109 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 12 Mar 80 TA

[Text] The NRP secretary denied reports that his party has been holding contacts with other parties to advance the elections. Dani Vermus told our correspondent that as long as the NRP is in the government, it will not negotiate with another party to advance the elections. If the NRP decides otherwise, it will not hold the contacts secretly, he said.

MAPAM INITIATES CONTACTS WITH WEST BANK LEADERS

TA121234 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 12 Mar 80 pp 1, 2 TA

[By Q. Amnon]

[Excerpt] Hebron Mayor Fahd al-Qawasimi yesterday received MAPAM Secretary General Victor Shem-Tov for a talk in his office. The mayor related the actions of Qiryat Arba' settlers in Hebron to his visitor and Mr Shem-Tov said in his reply, that he had come to visit the mayor prompted by deep concern that there was danger of a deterioration in relations between Jews and Arabs as the result of the acts of violence and provocation carried out against Hebron residents.

Shem-Tov also said that "the visit to Hebron is the first in a series of meetings he would be holding with Palestinian leaders in the occupied territories." It should be noted that with the exception of RAKAH, whose leaders are in close contact with the leadership in the territories this is the first time that an Israeli party leader has embarked upon a eries of contacts with the Palestinian leadership in the West Bank and Gaza.

JEWISH AGENCY HAS NO FUNDS FOR SETTLEMENTS BEYOND GREEN LINE

TA120610 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 12 Mar 80 TA

[Text] The head of the Jewish Agency's Settlement Department said it does not have enough money to establish even one settlement in the pre-Six-Day War area. If the department does not receive another 1 billion pounds from the treasury, it will also not be able to establish 11 settlements in the administered areas that have been decided on. The Jewish Agency's Board of Trustees has promised to raise another $10 million for lookout posts in the Galilee and Mt Hebron slopes.

NEW SECURITY MEASURES ADOPTED BY IDF IN WEST BANK

TA131127 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 13 Mar 80 TA

[Text] The IDF set up observation posts in places defined as sensitive in Judaea and Samaria: the Jewish Quarter in Hebron, the main road in Halhul and the Al-Jalazun refugee camp near Ramallah. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari was told this was not a change in the principled approach that rejects IDF bases in Judaea and Samaria. These observation posts are being set up for specific purposes only and their aim is to maintain order.

AFGHANISTAN

ACTIVITIES OF BABRAK KARMAL REPORTED

Visit to Hospital

LD122252 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Babrak Karmal, the general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, chairman of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, visited the great Pashtun leader, Khan 'Abdol Ghafar Khan, at the hospital of the armed forces academy at 1400 today. Khan 'Abdol Ghafar Khan is having treatment at the hospital because of illness.

Receiving of International Lawyers

LD122254 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee chairman of the Revolutionary Council [RC] and prime minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] received a delegation of the international union of democratic lawyers in the RC hall of the Arg [as received] at 1600 today.

Babrak Karmal and members of the delegation discussed the situation in Afghanistan and the DRA party and government protection of human rights in the new stage of the Sawr Revolution. Babrak Karmal also explained the country's foreign policy and welcomed the delegation's interest in Afghan affairs. Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost was present at the meeting.

The delegation of the international union of democratic lawyers recently arrived in Kabul under the chairmanship of Dr (Edgar Ronko), general secretary of Finnish lawyers.

Appointments to Administration

BK121431 Hong Kong AFP in English 1344 GMT 12 Mar 80 BK

[Text] New Delhi, March 12 (AFP)--President Babrak Karmal of Afghanistan has widened the base of his Khalq-Parcham government by inducting into his administration a large number of rehabilitated politicians, technocrats, diplomats and civil servants, the PTI agency reported today from Kabul.

The list included some 100 names who had undergone various sorts of punishment under the former Hafizollah Amin regime.

The agency interpreted Mr Karmal's move as a bid to win wider acceptability and support from different political shades. It said some of the new appointees were rightists but they were known personally to Mr. Karmal when he was a member of parliament before the April 1978 Revolution.

PTI added that among the new appointees were many advisers in the rank of deputy minister, including Dr. Rawan Farhadi, Foreign Ministry, Abdul Rauf Benawa, attached to the president's office, Mohammad Sadiq Farhang, cultural affairs, and Dr. Abdul Wahid Sarawi, higher education.

76 MORE PRISONERS RELEASED, TOTAL STANDS AT 1,078

LD130000 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Text] Based on the (?1) March announcement of the security forces, the program for releasing those accused in the 21-22 February Kabul city incidents continues.

Today, 76 persons who, (?on the provocation) of our enemies were accused of destructive activities in the city of Kabul and who were under surveillance have been set free. The number of those released now totals 1,078. A source of the security forces said the investigating commission is continuing its work.

The released persons, [word indistinct] of the deceived antirevolutionary elements, expressed complete support for the revolutionary government of Afghanistan and promised the (?party) authorities to help eliminate antiprogressive (?elements) and those opposed to the interests of Afghanistan's toilers.

PEOPLE RETURN TO HOMES IN PAKTIA, BALKH PROVINCES

Living in Peace

LD130001 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Excerpt] According to a report from Gardez, 47 oppressed families of the Sayyed Karam District in Paktia Province have returned to their homes and are once again living in a peaceful atmosphere.

Support for Karmal

LD130002 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Summary] The people of Keshandeh subdistrict of Sholgerah District in Balkh Province have expressed their support for Karmal and condemned Amin for atrocities against the people. The people left the district because of Amin's cruelties and took to the mountains. They have now returned to their homes.

Resistance Groups in Farah Province

GF131025 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 12 Mar 80 GF

[Text] In response to Babrak Karmal's national and historic speech, our patriotic and toiling masses are forming resistance groups to defend the homeland's honor and the gains of the glorious April Revolution and carry out their historic mission of struggling against the revolution's enemies.

A number of patriotic and courageous youths and intellectuals in Qal'eh Kah, Farah Province, have formed a resistance group to oppose the enemies of the April Revolution. They have joined their brothers in the security forces in order to obtain arms and uniforms.

POSITION OF FRENCH COMMUNITY IN KABUL 'DIFFICULT'

LD121717 Paris LE MONDE in French 12 Mar 80 p 8 LD

[Patrick Frances dispatch: "Difficult Cooperation Between Paris and Kabul"]

[Text] New Delhi--The arrival from Kabul of eight French children at New Delhi airport on 7 March marked a turning point in the French authorities' appreciation of the Afghan situation. While the United States, Britain and the FRG have already brought most of their nationals home, France, in conjunction with its EC partners, simply recalled its ambassador for consultations. The latter is still in Paris, where his wife has joined him.

Considered by certain residents as "somewhat optimistic," the French authorites had nevertheless suggested, since last fall, that those who wished could have some of their possessions shipped home, and most of the residents accepted. Since then, and apparently in the light of the events of 21 and 22 February, parents with children still in Kabul have been urged to send their offspring home. Now all the French children and most of the mothers have left the Afghan capital.

The French-paid teachers who work at the Esteqlal French-Afghan school and the Malalai girls'school are still waiting. About a dozen, who were vacationing in France, have been asked by the Quai d'Orsay to remain until 15 March. Another dozen or so, either in India or Afghanistan, have for the most part returned to Kabul, where the new school terms starts on 21 March.

For the French cultural services the situation is nothing short of difficult in that the stated aim would appear to be to continue cooperation without thereby seeming to stand surety for the present regime. The example of the Esteqlal school shows the difficulty of the task. A neighbor of the former royal palace, which has since become the House of the People, this school effectively occupied a strategic position. Since the April Revolution it has been housing an arms store, and each night it was occupied by militiamen, which presented some problems for the French teaching staff. "In fact," a teacher stated, "with each new setback the school is turned into a barracks."

Since December, that is, since the start of the school vacations, the school hall has been permanently occupied by about 20 armed militiamen. A French tourist, recently arrested in Kabul, was detained there and questioned by some Parchamis (militiamen of the ruling party) in the deputy headmaster's office. He has since been expelled.

Concerned, despite everything, to maintain a French presence, the embassy's cultural services have apparently suggested that Paris should only appoint volunteeb teachers to the Esteqlal school. Are there many there at present? A resident believes "you could count them on the fingers of one hand, but that would achieve what they set out to do."

Apart from the secondary education mission and the embassy staff (some 20 people), also employed in Kabul are two professors appointed to the university's French department, two members of the national center for scientific research,a doctor, three officials of the French-Afghan pedagogic center (cultural center) and the five members of the archeological mission (dafa).

The attitude of the Afghan authorities is clearly favorable in that the French presence can seem to show approval of the present regime. Moreover, Mr Marchais' stance since the Soviet intervention and the recent CGT delegation's visit to Kabul (depicted in the local press at that time as the PCF's union) explain why, officially, France, or more exactly the PCF, is described warmly.

PAP CORRESPONDENT REPORTS ON SITUATION IN COUNTRY

ID121826 Warsaw PAP in English 1720 GMT 12 Mar 80 ID

[Text] Kabul, 12 March, PAP--(By PAP corresponient Ryszard Piekarowicz)--The Afghan revolution is strengthening the defensive structures of the new authorities as well as continuing political offensive. Following the events in Kabul on February 21 and 22, which had been incited by anti-government groupings aided from outside the country, there began a rapid formation of the so-called guruhaie mokeamat, or groups of resistance, made up mainly of students, youth and workers. Members of this voluntary grouping receive firearms and help the police and army guard security in large cities,and, gradually, also in small provincial towns.

Afghanistan's roads witness the revolution and counterrevolution wage the important battle for transportation. The rebels use the fact that a majority of the nation's roads which link the main cities with provinces leads through high mountains and organize ambushes there to trap vehicles or shoot at them (especially petrol tankers) from hiding.

Terrorist and sabotage groups receive arms and munition from the territory of Pakistan which is often brought into the country by caravans made up of camels and donkeys.

In the struggle against its opponents, the Afghan revolution is hard and fast on the terrorists and saboteurs, but is forbearing towards persons misled by anti-government propaganda. On the night of March 11, further 350 participants in the February 21-22 events were released from the Pol-e Charki prison near Kabul. All in all, out of the more than 1,300 persons arrested after February 21, some 1,000 were released.

Afghanistan's Minister of Information 'Abdol Majid told a PAP correspondent that the government was continuing the explanatory action as well as telling the people truth about its intentions, and the deformations and deviations of the Amin regime, the character of the revolution, foreign assistance to the rebels and reasons for the Soviet military presence in the country. The government is certain that this campaign, and especially its concrete moves, makes all the Afghan people see that the revolution has returned onto a good road and that it can ensure Afghanistan prosperity and progress.

AFP REPORTS ON ARMY DESERTIONS, SOVIET CASUALTIES

BK121445 Hong Kong AFP in English 1409 GMT 12 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, 12 March (AFP)--The continuing hemorrhage of deserters has reduced the offensive capability of the Afghan Army by at least one-half since the leftist coup in April 1978, a well-informed Pakistani source said here by the Afghan border.

Another large number of government soldiers rallied to the Islamic rebels on Monday near Samarkhel in Nangarhar Province, two rebel organizations claimed.

From 80 to 280 soldiers deserted, according to divergent accounts, which also differed as to the circumstances. But observers did not doubt that a sizeable number deserted because of the atmosphere of rout that seems to prevail among government troops engaged in the rebel zone.

Several thousand soldiers have joined the mojahedin (Islamic fighters) since the start of the Soviet military intervention. Afghan soldiers are no longer authorized to leave their barracks with their weapons and some units are even disarmed at night, Pakistani sources report.

The increase in Soviet losses and the fact that the soldiers are being killed by bullets supplied to the Afghan Army by the Soviet Union has caused much bad feeling between the two armies. The rebels say 1,400 Russians have been killed in Konarha Province, and admit to losing 2,500 men themselves.

The deserters only bring the rebels light weapons--Kalashnikov automatic rifles and Papasha sub-machine guns of World War Two vintage. It is the rebels' only supply of guns, except unreliable copies of Western arms made by artisans in Pakistan out of poor steel that does not resist overheating.

The Soviet [words indistinct] from the zone of operations 4,000 soldiers from Moslem regions of the Soviet Union and has practically renounced cooperating in the fighting zone with Afghan soldiers because they are viewed as untrustworthy, a source here said.

Rebels accounts on the fighting since 1 March seem to substantiate these reports. They say the whole Konarha Province offensive was carried out by Soviet forces alone.

Almost every day, the rebels claim to have carried out victorious raids against outposts held by troops of Afghan leftist leader Babrak Karmal and Afghan communist militants. The latter have also started to defect to the rebels "after seeing the Soviet Red Army in action," reported the rebel group Jamiat-e Eslami.

The resistance groups, which said in the past they had no choice but to execute their prisoners, now enlist deserters with whom they were fighting just the day before.

Two rebel communiques late last month told of spontaneous attacks by Afghan regulars against the Russians. When Jalalabad Airport was beleaguered at night by rebels, they reportedly heard shooting from the Afghan Army line at Soviet paratroopers who had just landed in their first direct intervention in Afghanistan.

But the Soviet expeditionary corps has not yet suffered any notable setback despite the bad feeling between the two armies, harassment by the rebels and open hostility of Moslem civilians.

Armoured Soviet helicopters will continue to reign over the mountains as long as the rebels lack weapons capable of damaging them. The helicopters are much more formidable in the mountains than tanks.

REBELS SABOTAGE JALALABAD POWER STATION

BK121707 Hong Kong AFP in English 1659 GMT 12 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, 12 March (AFP)--Afghan insurgents sabotaged Jalalabad's main power station late last night, plunging the local airfield, used by Soviet aircraft, into darkness for tonight, the Jamiat-e Eslami insurgent group said today. The airport has come under almost nightly rebel attack over the past few weeks.

In the same communique, Jamiat-e Eslami said mojahedin had killed a group of Soviet soldiers outside Jalalabad last night, burning their jeep and capturing six Kalashnikov rifles. The report did not say how many Soviet soldiers were in the patrol.

Meanwhile, another insurgent group, Hezb-e Eslami, today released a list of 11 Khalq (communist) party members it had arrested and executed throughout Afghanistan. The list included a Moslem priest accused of backing the Soviet installed regime of Barbak Karmal. A Hezb-e Eslami spokesman said that, from now on, the organisation would systematically seek out and execute communist party members.

In Peshawar, negotiations continued today to appoint a chairman of the alliance for the liberation of Afghanistan, formed last week by five of the country's six leading Moslem insurgent groups. A Jamiat-e Eslami source said negotiations had run into problems in drafting the new alliance's charter. The chairman was due to have been named on Monday.

THOUSANDS FLEE SOVIET SPRING OFFENSIVE IN KONARHA

OW122241 Paris AFP in English 2140 GMT 12 Mar 80 OW

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, March 12 (AFP)--An estimated 50,000-80,000 Afghan refugees fleeing the Soviet-backed offensive in eastern Afghanistan's Kunar valley are fighting hunger and exhaustion in the Dangam border area, a relief organization spokesman said today.

Tribal couriers reported that these problems and the presence of numerous wounded were preventing the refugees from reaching neighbouring Pakistan, Grazielle Gavito, head of the organization's Pakistan mission, said.

The refugees apparently intended to flee to the north but they were in no state to make such a trek, she said.

Pakistani authorities in the Bajaur region expected a massive influx of Afghan refugees following bombing of the Kunar valley, but only a few thousand have made it across the border.

Fighting in the Kunar area has been centered in the last few days on Dangam, according to rebel groups here, and movement of local civilians is considered difficult.

Mrs. Gavito said she had gone to Bajaur where she bought three tons of flour available on the local market. She said she had asked tribal chiefs to send small groups of men across the border to distribute the four and bring back wounded refugees.

Mrs Gavito also announced that a group of humanitarian organizations have launched an appeal for funds to buy 8,000 tents for the Kunar valley refugees reaching Pakistan.

LE MONDE CARRIES REPORTAGE ON FRAGMENTED OPPOSITION TO SOVIETS

LD121341 Paris LE MONDE in French 8-10 Mar 80 pp 4-5 LD

[Jean-Christopher Victor article: "From Rebellion to Resistance"]

[Excerpts] Kabul--"The success of the bazaar strike of Thursday 21 February owes nothing to spontaneity. We had already tried to mobilize the people three times in January and February. However, our attempts failed. The traders in the Kabul bazaars now seem to have realized that the city's salvation will not come entirely from the mountains." For (Nahum), a young official in one of Afghanistan's internal pro-Islamic resistance movements whom we met early one morning in a house in Kabul's residential district, the rallying role of the "night letters," giving a date and specific objectives, seems to have been the decisive factor on February last.

"The Russians' arrival in Afghanistan is a Godsend to us. When they came out into the open it was a revelation for the outside world but simply a confirmation for us. The mask has now been cast off and things are at least clear. Thanks to their intervention we are at last going to receive weapons."

(Munand Khan) chief of an Afghan tribe from Paktia, southeast of Kabul, had come to exchange reports in Peshawar. The position warefare which has continued throughout the winter is in suspense for 2 or 3 short weeks. The extreme tension in Kabul and Jalalabad, the preparation for the spring offensive by both sides in these early days of March have enabled him to come and spend several days in this Pakistani city which is closest to the border.

This famous "Mortimer-Durand line," so fiercely cursed by the Pashtun tribes, which was drawn at the end of last century by the British to separate the British Empire from Afghanistan, has always been crossed as easily as you pass from one department to another in France. Some 2 days march away is the "border," just before which, at the request of the combat authorities, they put on the light turban of the southern tribes and a long shirt falling over wide, billowing trousers, all in a light beige.

"The color of the desert," (Munand) explained with a smile. "Our only defensive weapon against the aircraft which overfly us is to look like sand and to lie on our rifles, which are a dark color."

Night is the weapon of offensives and the ally of attacks. The section of the tribe which (Munand) leads has consisted of some 7,000 men divided into groups of 400 fighters since July 1979. Armed only with their hunting rifles--a British 303 bore--or a Kalashnikov captured from the Russians, these groups attack an enemy position, a barracks, a small town held by government soldiers. (Munand) listed four objectives to be attained, in order of priority: capturing new weapons and munitions stocks; taking the greatest possible number of Afghan soldiers prisoner in order to turn them into deserters and then resistance fighters after executing the officers; "liberating" the village or small town; killing the greatest possible number of Russian soldiers and maintaining a daily reign of insecurity.

Although the desert's flat terrain makes it impossible to hide, it favors rapid movement. The aim therefore is to launch a surprise attack simultaneously from several places until the shots from recoilless guns indicate that the attack position has been detected. You then change your position by running and moving closer together.

If the objectives are not attained or even if they are only partly attained the attackers withdraw before dawn again draws a line between the desert and the sky. The dead are left lying on the sand, their rifles are taken and the wounded are moved to safer, more remote places. Those with serious injuries will be transported to the nearest Pakistani hospitals. Meanwhile (Munand Khan's) 400 men rejoin their home base--ther own villages situated in the region where the battle took place.

The presence of foreign soldiers merely arouses the Afghan's fundamental virtues. Leaving the village as soon as night falls, laying an ambush, wanting to be the one who kills most infidels, holding your faith in Islam as a shield against death-everybody is playing the game of war with barely disguised pleasure rather than worrying about its possible consequences.

What about fear of death? Here is how to guard against it: "Dip a finger in the blood of the first man you have killed with fear. Put the blood on your tongue and you will not have fear for a companion when you approach the second...."

"Killing a Russian," we were told, "is a double victory. He is an occupier and an infidel. A holy war has been declared and every Muslim wants to play a part." It is primarily a national crusade but there is also an awareness of a vast and natural Islamic solidarity against those who are suspected of being atheists and in any case accused of not respecting the Prophet and his caliphs. Moreover, in a village where everybody knows each other, what man could claim to be a good Muslim if he hesitates to take part in the jihad?

This unity, achieved by the very function of the tribe and the uniting role of a khan--leader of the alliance in a valley--has its effectiveness limited by the very factor which constitutes its strength in face of the enemy: the widespread nature of the fight. "It is the Russians who are arming us," people constantly say. War trophies--munitions, machineguns, supplies--are useful in the battle as they are prestigious for the group, however small, which seized them in the fight.

A column of tanks entering a valley to block access to it can often be immobilized by blowing up the tracks with a Molotov cocktail. Or, more simply still, by covering the sight of the leading tank with mud! However, when the convoy is attacked how can reinforcements be obtained or the battle coordinated, if as we are told, there are only some 15 field telephones in the whole of Afghanistan? How can a helicopter attack be countered with the required speed if the few antiaircraft bazookas available are in the hands of a neighboring group or party with whom you have to negotiate the loan of the devices after walking to their valley in the 1m-deep snow which covers more than half of the north of the country?

"How could we keep secret the position of a gun hidden behind a hill when some 20 fighters have to pass the word from the top of the hill to the gunner to tell him to aim his fire more to the left or higher?" (Munand) asked. In addition to these tactical problems there are strategic problems. The lack of any single military command, the rivalry between Islamic opposition parties in the field make the resistance's success even more credible. It means that their success is due more to the fighters' intrinsic qualities and to the food sacrifices made for them by the rural population than to a united front which is barely able to organize itself in Peshawar--a front which reportedly has sophisticated weapons which everybody has been expecting to receive at any time for the past 2 months.

Peshawar--"Obviously, the Kremlin's attitude in Afghanistan worries us, since its soldiers are now knocking at our door. Furthermore, its statements also affect us because of the geographical absurdities they contain. For the Pathans who live on both sides of the Pakistani-Afghan border which has existed for 100 years are one and the same people. They share the same religion, culture and traditions and they are linked by close family ties. How could we have refused to welcome the 600,000 Afghans who sought refuge in our country? It would have been just as absurd as if West Berlin Germans had been asked in August 1961 not to provide shelter for their East Berlin brothers who were jumping over a wall built overnight which none of them wanted!"

Col (Abdul Raim), secretary of state to the minister of states and frontiers regions in the Islamabad federal government, showed relative optimism: "According to our estimates, the melting of the snow in March and the intensification of the fighting to which it will lead will force some 150,000 Afghans to cross the border. It appears that their first needs--tents, blankets and flour--will be partly satisfied as a result of the international community's and Pakistan's joint efforts. Money is channeled through the office of the UN high commissioner for refugees,and the way in which it is used for both emergency cases and medium-term projects is subjected to its and our control. However, we obviously know neither how long these Afghans will remain in Pakistan nor how many more will arrive in the course of the coming months. This depends on the Russians."

To the Afghans the answer is obvious and should reassure the very few Pakistanis who are worried by their number "Tents are a luxury because we do not want to settle down," one of them explained. "We are waiting for arms and the melting of the snow to go back to Afghanistan. Our wives, children and parents will stay here, sheltered from the bombs, until those who are dropping them leave. That is why we do not want to be regrouped in camps to which the Pakistani authorities invite us for reasons relating to convenience and supplies."

Having at their disposal sometimes considerable funds derived from both voluntary and compulsory contributions and also from private or official aid given by the Gulf countries, all "parties" continually claim to be the strongest in the field, the most representative abroad and...the poorest.

Card-carrying party "members" are self-seeking clients rather than fervent militants. Even though praised by party political leaders, the effective coordination which is supposed to prevail between Peshawar and the combat areas has been rather contradicted by talks with members of the resistance movement met along the border and in Kabul. In fact, (Walid Majrouh), a member of the Konarha resistance movement, did not conceal his mistrust of those who do not fight with rifles.

"We did not wait for the creation of these parties to rise against the Taraki regime. The (Mangal), (Djadji) and (Zadran) tribes of Pakhtia Province and those of Nuristan in the Konarha region have followed their tribal chiefs right from the beginning, and not politicians who have sought refuge in Pakistan and most of whom have never come to fight in Afghanistan."

The Harekat-e Enqelab-e Eslami (the Islamic Revolution Movement) of Mawlavi Mohammad Nabi Mohammad; a former deputy supported by old natables and mullahs (Muslim clergy), the Jamiet-e Eslami (Muslim Society) of burhanuddin Rabbani, a native of Central Afghanistan supported by Muslim intellectuals, and the Hezb-e Eslami (Afghan Islamic Party) of Gulbuddin Hikmatyar want to install in Kabul a pure and hard Islamic republic strictly inspired by Koran principles. All concerned are therefore proud of being called "fundamentalists." With the exception of Hezb-e Eslami, these parties were created 6 months-2 years ago.

"Daoud Prepared the Ground for Communism..."

Hezb-e Eslami, which was created in 1968, that is, toward the end of the reign of Zahir Shah, to fight against Westernization of cutoms, the relaxation of Islamic rules of daily life, the curtailing of the mullah's role in the villages, the secularization of education and the possibility that women could be allowed to go out unveiled, has always enjoyed political and financial support from its equivalent in Pakistan, the pro-Islamic Harakati Islami.

Respected by some and rejected by others, Hezb-e Eslami leader Gulbuddin Hikmatyar is a political figure known to the Afghans. A former student at the Kabul engineering school, a militant of the student's union in 1970 and leader of local revolts against President Daoud's regime and of the (Panjshir)) revolt in July 1975, this Pathan from Baghlan has been accused of murdering Planning Minister 'Ali Ahmad Khorram in January 1978.

With offices installed in Peshawar for the past few years, he now has an organization in the field and, through the help of Muslim societies in the Arab world, enjoys a financial support envied by his competitors. Hikmatyar, who is rather vague about problems relating to both foreign policy--neutrality between the two blocs and alinement with Near East Muslim countries--and economic policy--"exploitating Afghanistan's hitherto underutilized natural resources"--believes that the behavior of the royal family was at the origin of the Soviet invasion. "Daoud prepared the ground for communism by financing his friend Babrak's party to enable Babrak to help him destabilize the king. How could he pretend to be nonalined when he used to send all his officers and all our natural gas to the USSR?"

And, finally, the Hezb-e Eslami has no intention of accepting the idea of either alcohol consumption by Muslims or education for women, who will have to continue to wear veils in the street "because the climate demands this." Hezb-e Eslami militants and supporters attach more importance to the power of Islam than to the tribes' cohesion and role. Teachers, minor city officials, members of the lower middle class and deserters without tribal ties are positive: "All Afghan Muslims support the Hezb-e Eslami and all Afghans are Muslims...."

For an Islamic Republic

In the areas where guerrilla warfare is taking place, the boldness of the attacks by Hezb-e Eslami soldiers and the effectiveness of their communications network is acknowledged, but they are strongly condemned for their cynicism and egoism. The case of Col 'Abdurra'uf, who deserted with his entire Chaghasarai garrison in the Konarha region, has often been mentioned and recalled to justify this criticism: "One-half of the deserters joined Hezb-e Eslami, whereas the other half remained with 'Abdurra'uf who, with 2 helicopters, joined Gailani's National Front for an Islamic Revolution. A few days later some Hezb-e Eslami men came to sabotage the two helicopters, to prevent Gailani's front from using them."

Some people believe that there can be no salvation outside a militant Islam unreconcilable with modernism, while others take the view that there can be no effective struggle without tribal power, which is at the very roots of Afghanistan. "The Koran has existed for 1,350 years; the Pathans for 3,000 years," Sayed Ahmed Gailani, leader of the (Enqelabti Melli-e Eslam), the National Front for an Islamic Revolution, stated. Unlike other leaders who sport long black beards like mullahs which they continually stroke, Gailani smiles under a short gray beard and wears elegant Western style clothes. Sayed--that is, a descendent of the Prophet--Gailani, the son of a great religious scholar in Baghdad, has some charismatic power over a few Pathan tribes in the south. "If, once victory is achieved, an excessively strict Islamic republic is established, it will withstand any imperatives peculiar to the end of the 20th century--industrial development and extensive agriculture--for no longer than 1 or 2 years."

This view is shared by the other "liberal" party--the Sebqatollah Mojadedi's Nejat-e Melli. Mojaddedi--a hazrat, that is, a man of Arab origin--who is professor of Islamic law in Jiddah and Copenhagen, recognizes that union amongparties is necessary.

Every party leader has been fighting tooth and nail to insure that no one but himself becomes the head of any Afghan Government in exile. However, all concerned agree on two immediate requirements: unconditional withdrawal of Soviet troops and establishment of an Islamic republic.

It seems that the plan for neutralization has been well received by all. "Unless it is a double-cross," a member of the National Revolution Front stated, "whereby the Russians would withdraw 20,000 soldiers in a spectacular manner while secretly leaving 50,000 behind. If this were to happen, resistance would simply continue. Or it could be a way to enable Europe and the United States to brag about having decreased tension and assert that they had been right not to supply us with arms and that detente can be resumed. In that case, we will acquire means for provoking the Russians in order to make them apply the right of pursuit to Pakistan."

FORMER KABUL OFFICIALS TESTIFIES ON FRENCH TV

LD121505 Paris FRANCE-SOIR in French 12 Mar 80 p 7 LD

[Jean-Louis Morillon report: "A Witness Testifies to the Bloody Repression in Kabul"]

[Text] The masked celebrity guest of tonight's "Dossiers de l'Ecran" program of Afghanistan is afraid. A high-ranking Kabul civil servant until a few months ago, 38 year-old (Djamal Sultani)--clearly an assumed name--feels hunted, even exiled with his French wife and three children in the south of France.

He agreed to talk before television channel two's cameras if he could wear a disguise, which may seem ridiculous to many viewers. But Mr (Sultani) does not want to take any chances: His 82 year-old father, his mother and two sisters still live in the Russian-occupied Afghan capital, and the pro-Soviet regime has no hesitation about taking bloody reprisals against the family of a rebel.

This wealth of precautions may seem futile. The KGB must easily be able to work out Mr (Sultani's) true identity since this former Afghan official has given many frightening details of his experiences in an account titled "The Kabul Syndrome," published over the weekend by journalist Francois Missen.

But you can understand (Djamal Sultani's) terror: He experienced from within the setting up of the first pro-Soviet Taraki regime, and what he has to say may profoundly embarrass the Kremlin and its allies.

In April 1978 a coup d'etat planned by the Soviet Embassy toppled the "neutralist" President Daiud and installed Taraki. Mr (Sultani) remained at the Defense Ministry. An underdeveloped Afghanistan could not deprive itself of its few competent cadres. But the new regime was distrustful: (Sultani) refused to join the only party and did not attend the daily Marxist indoctrination sessions presided over by a Soviet adviser.

He was given a "secretary" who could not type--"I have arthritis in my right hand" she stated-but who was given the job of spying on him.

A Former Prostitute

Already the fanatically religious population hated the atheist Taraki government and the authorities recruited collaborators wherever they could. Thus Mr (Sultani's) pseudo-secretary was in fact a 25 year-old ex-prostitute, one of the few to agree to sport a Lenin badge for money.

But the Russians did not trust even the most zealously pro-Soviet Afghans. Despite being "true to the party line," Mr (Sultani's) superior, a minister who even demanded paper headed in red out of concern for ideology, did not have access to his ministry's photocopying machines, which were controlled by two Soviet civil servants.

The country was systematically purged: 3 months after the coup, the number of Soviet advisers rose from 2,000 to 7,000.

The Sound of Gunfire

Being in a position where he received many reports, Mr (Sultani) affirms that in this period, thus, well before the overt invasion of recent months, the Russians were planning massacres at the Pol-e Charki Prison, some 12 km from Kabul.

Every evening, two Soviet officers watched the execution of dozens of political detainees.

"The daily sounds of shooting provoked discontent," Mr (Sultani) states. "The authorities realized this, and one day I saw a written directive which specified that 'on the advice of our Soviet friends,' more discreet forms of execution were to be found."

The result of this order was frightening: they no longer shot opponents; they buried them alive near the prison.

Mrs (Sultani) fell ill. She had to have an operation in France. Was this not a trick to flee the country? the authorities asked. A Soviet woman doctor finally authorized it, but Mr (Sultani) had to promise "not to leave Afghanistan on any pretext" before his wife's return.

Mr (Sultani) often went to the Western embassies in Kabul to send his wife money. He was arrested in June 1979 and questioned in the "technical rooms" of his own ministry, the authorities' name for the torture chambers. On his release he joined the underground.

During a skirmish he fell from a rock and a piece of wood pierced his left armpit. He was almost dead when he reached a hospital in Pakistan.

"As soon as I have rested sufficiently in France, I hope to join the (hazarajat) underground movement," he assures us. But perhaps it will already be too late in a few months: This region in the center of the country is at present encircled by the Soviets, and famine threatens to spark off genocide there.

KABUL POLICE FIRE BRIGADE EXTINGUISHES FACTORY FIRE

LD122324 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Mar 80 LD

[Text] A fire in a section of a factory [words indistinct] was extinguished (?with speed) by the Kabul police fire brigade. A Kabul Province police source said that the (?report) of fire breaking out reached them via party wards 9 and 10 of Kabul party organization [words indistinct]: At 1730 they went to the scene of the fire and by 1750 (?the fire was extinguished).

The source said that the fire [words indistinct] where painting was in progress and one (?painting) machine was damaged. The cause of the fire is being investigated by the duty police.

INDIA

PRIME MINISTER CLARIFIES NUCLEAR POLICY

BK130815 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 13 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi has reaffirmed India's commitment to the peaceful use of atomic energy. At the same time, she has made it clear that it will not hesitate to carry out nuclear explosions or implosions whatever they might be in the national interests.

Replying to questions in the Rajya Sabha today, Mrs Gandhi said it is necessary that India should keep in touch with the latest development of technology in the nuclear field. The prime minister agreed with a member that India should make an in-depth study of the question of development of nuclear energy in the neighboring countries. She said we should keep our eyes and ears open and we must be in touch with the latest development of technology in the field.

AFP Report

BK131057 Hong Kong AFP in English 0822 GMT 13 Mar 80 BK

[Excerpts] New Delhi, 13 March (AFP)--Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi said today that while India remained committed to peaceful use of nuclear energy she would not hesitate to carry out nuclear explosions or implosions "in the national interest."

Mrs. Gandhi, who was replying to a question in parliament on possible nuclear threat to India from Pakistan, said India should make an in-depth study of nuclear development in the neighbourhood.

Mrs. Gandhi said Pakistan and China had made it known that their intentions in producing nuclear energy were peaceful. "We hope this is, indeed, do," she said.

Meanwhile the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) today announced a plan to set up a second power reactor fuel reprocessing plant at Kalpakkam, near Madras.

The new plant would reprocess spent fuel from the two reactors of the Madras atomic power projects.

PAKISTAN

KARACHI NOTES AFP REPORT ON U.S. AID TO PAKISTAN

BK131101 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 13 Mar 80 BK

[Text] An AFP report quoting State Department officials in Washington says that the United States has not shelved its plan to provide assistance to Pakistan despite rejection of American aid package offer to Pakistan.

U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Warren Christopher said yesterday that he believes there is an opportunity for the United States to help Pakistan economically. However, he said, the creation of any new aid program for Pakistan will be postponed pending completion of President Carter's review of the federal budget for the 1980 fiscal year.

PRESIDENT HAQ FETED BY ARMED FORCES

BK121735 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 13 Mar 80 BK

[Text] President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq attended a bara khana [banquet] in an army unit in Rawalpindi today. He talked informally to the officers and jawans [soldiers] of the unit and urged them that greater attention should be paid to professional training. Earlier, on his arrival, the president was received by corps commander Lt Gen Faize Ali Chisti.

IQBAL KHAN VISITS MILITARY ACADEMY

BK121518 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 12 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Deputy Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen Mohammad Iqbal Khan visited the Kabul Military Academy and exchanged views on various methods of training at the academy.

KARACHI REPORTS INFORMATION MINISTER'S TALKS IN LONDON

BK130527 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 13 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Federal Minister for Information Maj Gen (Ret) Shahid Hamid held a meeting with British State Secretary (Peter Blaker) in London yesterday which lasted for an hour. The British authorities have said they exchanged views on the Afghanistan crisis and other important world events.

The information minister also held a meeting with Pakistani journalists and informed them of Pakistan's domestic as well as foreign policies.

ENERGY AUTHORITY CRITICIZES SITE FOR NUCLEAR COMPLEX

BK121527 Hong Kong AFP in English 0754 GMT 12 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Karachi March 12 (AFP)--Dr. I.H. Usmani, senior energy advisor to the United Nations, has criticised the location of Pakistan's nuclear complex near Chashma Barrage. Giving a talk at the Karachi Press Club Dr. Usmani, a former chairman of Pakistan's Atomic Energy Commission, said the Chashma site for a nuclear complex was not suitable since it was in the seismic zone. The energy expert pointed out that besides the possibility of the earthquake, [words indistinct] happened the leakage of radioactive elements from plutonium would contaminate river Indus waters for 24,000 years.

He called for a national debate on the location of this site.

He regretted that the late Prime Minister Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto had made a political issue out of Pakistan's atomic energy plans, making the world suspicious about it.

He stressed the need for a national programme for better exploitation of all available energy resources in the country.

TUNISIAN PRESIDENT'S ENVOY CALLS ON HAQ

BK121718 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 12 Mar 80 BK

[Text] Mr (Sayed Salim), special envoy of President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia, called on President Gen Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi today. Pakistan Foreign Secretary Mr S. Shahnawaz was also present on the occasion.